

## THE TIMES Tomorrow

Divorce, remarriage and the church  
Tomorrow the Church of England publishes its proposals for allowing the remarriage of divorced people in church. The Friday Page reports.

Women in the House  
What MPs really think of the idea of equal rights and opportunities for women.

Hair today  
Modern Times, appearing on Friday this week, takes a short-back-and-sideways look at the British way of life.

## Prices fall and gold tumbles

The strengthening dollar and fears of higher interest rates sent prices falling across a broad range of equities, commodities and securities in London. The collapse was led by gold which tumbled \$23.5 to close in London at \$413 an ounce.

Page 17

## Top rider dies at show

Caroline Bradley, aged 37, one of Britain's leading show-jumpers, collapsed and died after competing in the Top Score competition at the Suffolk Show.

Back page

## Missiles fear

Nato believes that the Soviet Union is trying to make the Geneva negotiations on medium-range nuclear weapons irrelevant by continuing the deployment of short-range missiles in Eastern Europe.

Page 6

## Foetus plea

Roman Catholic bishops have suggested in evidence to the Warnock inquiry that the fetus should be given legal protection, but without any repeal of the Abortion Act, 1967.

Page 16



## WI campaign

Women's Institutes are hoping to introduce a more campaigning image at their annual meeting today, to gain the standing of an important pressure group.

Page 3

## £1m drug haul

Scotland Yard seized cocaine with a street value of up to £1m at a hotel in the West End of London. Six men were being questioned.

Page 2

## England win

England beat Scotland 2-0 at Wembley last night, thereby retaining the British Championship. The England scorers were Robson and Cowans.

Leaders page, 15  
Letters: On cruise control from Marshal of the RAF, Sir William Dickson; on the sinking of the General Belgrano from Mr Michael Nicholson; on Irish unity from Sir John Biggs-Davison.

Leading articles: Open government; Mitterrand; Pension funds.

Features, pages 12, 14  
Foreign affairs, the neglected campaign issue, by David Watt; Barbara Castle's election column; Where the black economy rules. Spectrum: How the unofficial Geneva arms deal was killed.

Books, page 13  
Byron Rogers reviews A. J. P. Taylor's autobiography; Bryan Shakespear on fiction; Rodrick Beaton on Greek; Tom Hutchinson on science fiction; Philip Howard on Mary Berenson.

Obituary, page 16  
Jack Dempsey, Miss Caroline Bradley.

Home News 2-5  
Property 25  
Overseas 6-8  
Sale Room 2  
Arts 16, 19  
Science 22-25  
Business 17-22  
TV & Radio 29  
Court 16  
Theatres, etc 29  
Crossword 30  
Universities 16  
Diary 14  
Weather 30  
Events 30  
Wills 16

# Labour braced for 100,000 drop in jobless total

● Labour politicians and union leaders are bracing themselves for the publication of job statistics supporting Tory claims of an economic upturn.  
● Mr Michael Foot said that "it would be an act of utter criminal insanity" for a Prime Minister to use nuclear retaliation against Soviet aggression.  
● Conservative scepticism greeted Alliance claims that it was moving to overtake the Labour Party as a result of its "disintegration".

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Labour politicians and trade union leaders are bracing themselves for more electoral "bad news" tomorrow in the shape of unemployment statistics that support government claims of an economic upturn. It is calculated that the crude jobless figure will fall by at least 100,000 towards the politically-sensitive 3m mark - and could even dip below it - as new arrangements for people aged 60 or over come fully into force.

Coming only six days before polling day and at the end of a week in which Labour has concentrated its fire-power on the unemployment issue, tomorrow's diminishing dole queue figures will provoke charges from the shadow cabinet ministers are "fiddling the books" to make the jobless situation appear better than it is.

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, will announce the unemployment figures at a briefing in Conservative Central Office and it is expected that he will claim them as a major success story for the Government's efforts to bring down the jobless total.

JUNE 2 83	
SNP leading	4
Belgrano call	4
Ronald Butt	15
Barbara Castle	14
Leading article	15
Frank Johnson	39

The Government assumes (and has already disclosed) that the number of people on the unemployment register will fall by 62,600 when the June total is published - tomorrow, because jobless men and women aged 60 or more are no longer required to "sign on" for unemployment benefit in order to qualify for

a reduction of at least 122,000 in the crude total of 3,169,879 jobless recorded last month. If the government's claims of a partial resurgence in the economy are correct, this reduction figure could be substantially boosted to the point where the number of registered unemployed actually falls below 3m.

The unions are already preparing for such an eventuality. The TUC and the shadow cabinet will argue that falling unemployment figures of this kind have been engineered by the government to convince the electorate that the economy is at last going back into growth.

On this occasion, however, the argument about school-leavers cannot be brought into play. Because Easter came early in 1983, 22,246 young people joined the register in last month's figures.

The unions are preparing their propaganda counter-attack against ministerial optimism generated by the unemployment statistics around a slogan that the real number of people out of work is at least 1m higher than the government's own register.

## Foot rejects concept of nuclear retaliation

By Anthony Bevins and John Winder

The fundamental disagreement between Mr Michael Foot and Mr Denis Healey finally broke into the open yesterday when the Labour leader told *The Times* at his daily press conference that "it would be an act of utter criminal insanity" for a Prime Minister to use nuclear retaliation against Soviet aggression.

He also endorsed Mr Enoch Powell's views, expressed in a speech on Tuesday, about the "nuclear nonsense". Mr Foot commented: "I think there is great substance in what he says about the fallacies of the deterrent theory."

Mr Foot then referred to the breakdown of deterrence, with the Russians threatening invasion, and added: "The question I think that was put to me by Mr Bevins describes a situation in which, in fact, the deterrent theory had broken down and I think it would be an act of utter criminal insanity for anybody to say in those circumstances that they were going to press the button."

But Mr Healey, asked about the Powell speech at a press conference in Lincoln, said that if Mr Powell was arguing that the deterrent did not deter, then he was mistaken.

Asked whether he, as a Prime Minister, could unleash the deterrent, he replied: "I can tell you quite frankly that I do not know, and the Russians do not know, whether any Prime Minister would."

Mr Foot's statement makes it quite clear to the Russians, and to the electorate, that he would not use nuclear weapons.

## Parkinson dismisses poll swing

By Our Political Staff

The claim made yesterday by Mr Roy Jenkins, leader of the Social Democratic Party, that the Liberal/SDP Alliance was now moving up to overtake the Labour Party, was greeted with scepticism by Mr Cecil Parkinson, chairman of the Conservative Party.

Mr Jenkins, at the Alliance press conference in London, had said that a swing of opinion towards the Alliance had been clearly detectable after Mr James Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister, had fired a torpedo through the

Alliance filipp.

An Audience Selection telephone poll in the *Sun* today suggests a further movement away from Labour to the Alliance. The poll, taken yesterday, puts the Conservatives at 44 per cent, Labour 29 per cent and Alliance 25 per cent, showing the Alliance up 4 points, Labour down 3 and Tories down 1 since May 24.

Continued on back page, col 1

## Thatcher interview 'badly handled'

'Mr Day' takes the blame

By Richard Evans

Sir Robin Day, the arch-inquisitor of Britain's politicians, confessed last night to being "deeply depressed" about the way he handled his controversial television interview with the Prime Minister on Tuesday night.

"I thought I handled it badly. I failed to ask a number of important questions to which the viewers were entitled to have answers", he said.

The 40-minute interview on the BBC's *Panorama* programme, during which Mrs Margaret Thatcher repeatedly referred to Sir Robin as Plain Mr Day, was hailed as an outstanding success by some political commentators. Sir Robin's tough questioning led one pundit to describe his performance as "the most courageous of a long and abrasive career".

"If people liked it as television, that is up to them", Sir Robin said. He was gratified by the response from some viewers who had found the interview interesting.

"But most of those viewers were friends; people in the close circle of broadcasting, of politics, and journalism.



Whether the people of Bootle or in cities all over the country found it useful that the Prime Minister and the interviewers were having a wrangle about statistics instead of having answers to questions, I am not so sure.

"In so far as they didn't, it must be my responsibility - and not the Prime Minister's."

Sir Robin said that during an interview of such importance, held during a critical stage in the election campaign, it was not for him to be clever or a television performer. "My responsibility is to see that as many important matters as



Moment of triumph: Lester Piggott on Teonoso is led in.

## Profits fall £8m at state airport group

By Sandy McLachlan

British Airport Authority, which is high on the Conservative Party's privatization list, suffered an £8m drop in operating profits to £34m for the year ending March 31.

However, Mr Norman Payne, chairman of the authority, said yesterday he hoped that profits would rebound in the present year.

The fall in profit is due to two main factors. In May 1981, BAA froze the prices it charged to airlines using its seven airports, Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Prestwick, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Aberdeen. The problem was exacerbated by the reduction in landing fees as a result of a fall in passenger volume in the recession.

BAA increased its airline charges by an average of 5 per cent from April this year and, according to Mr Payne, there are signs of a passenger volume upturn in the present financial year.

Last year, the authority experienced a 1 per cent volume increase against the 3 per cent to 4 per cent it had estimated. This year "we were not looking for very much over 1 to 2 per cent", Mr Payne said. "But if world economic recovery gets going I would again be looking for 3 to 4 per cent."

BAA was to some extent rescued in its last financial year by a 14 per cent increase in what it describes as its "commercial income". This is the profit it makes from franchising out airport services and from duty-free sales through airport shops.

Mr Payne was reluctant to comment on privatization prospects because of the general election. But he said that with the fourth terminal at Heathrow, and the new North terminal at Gatwick due to come on stream in 1987, BAA had adequate capacity to see it through expected passenger volume until at least 1987.

The Scottish airports, which lost £3m in the last financial year, are expected to break even in 1985-86 helped in part by a big advertising campaign to promote tourist business from North America directly to Prestwick, rather than via London.

BAA has spent £100,000 in a campaign mounted jointly with the Scottish Tourist Board. However, the authority will not know how successful this has been until after the summer season.

Flaming June stormed in with a vengeance yesterday as thunder, lightning and torrential rain brought havoc to the Midlands and the north after sweeping across the south during the night.

The heaviest storms for many years left dozens of roads under several feet of water, buildings damaged and overhead power lines out of action.

Some places had an inch of rain amid brilliant lightning flashes and thunder. "I can imagine a lot of people were scared out of their wits," a London weather Centre spokesman said.

The Meteorological Office sees no immediate respite to the unsettled weather. The steady stream of Atlantic depressions which made May the wettest for 20 years is expected to continue for four or five days.

Although higher than average rainfall had been measured in many parts of the country, the rain gauge station of the office's headquarters, at Bracknell, was recording below average for the month until last night.

The London fire brigade was overwhelmed with calls, many to pump water out of flooded buildings. Residents in a block of flats at Wades Place, Limehouse, east London, were evacuated after a chimney was struck by lightning and was threatening to collapse.

Lighting also struck two roofs at houses in Sheerwater, Surrey, and a tree was blown across the A264 near Loxton Church, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

The A1 was closed at Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, and at Eaton, Nottinghamshire. Thousands of people had the electricity cut off after lightning struck overhead power lines to Basildon and Southend, Essex.

## Printers accused by press chief

By David Nicholson-Lord

Management at the *Financial Times*, where a long-running industrial dispute has again stopped production, yesterday called for tighter curbs on trade union power.

The newspaper, which lost its 200,000 British print run for the second day running this morning, accused the National Graphical Association of mounting the "largest attempt at highway robbery" in Fleet Street history and said the action by 24 print staff showed how a small number of employees could "unlawfully" inflict immense damage on a national newspaper.

Mr Alan Hare, chairman of the *Financial Times*, told a specially convened press conference: "Apart from stopping a national newspaper, one of the few incidents which has not occurred for any party so far during this election, the action illustrates dramatically the need as far as national newspapers are concerned for legislation either for a lay-off clause or for the legal enforceability of contracts by any government which wishes to see a diversified and free press continue."

Mr Bryn Griffiths, general president of the NGA, which has declared the dispute official, immediately described Mr Hare's claims as ridiculous and added: "They told us when the talks broke down they would sling mud. The company is living up to its reputation."

Mr Hare, who failed to rule out recourse to the courts by management, said he did not want to bring politics into newspapers "but it won't be my fault if the politicians are brought in because unions fail to exercise their proper responsibilities."

The immediate cause of the dispute, which also threatens the newspaper's 50,000 print run in Frankfurt, is a new claim by the NGA on behalf of eight regular and 16 casual machine managers. The management, which has been seeking new productivity agreements with production staff for over three years, said the claim would take average weekly earnings from £304 to £330.

Mr Hare said it could not be justified because the men were doing less work. Mr Griffiths said the union had dropped its claim to £322 but the management had offered only £5 on a "take it or leave it" basis. The claim reflected extra production and different working practices, he added.

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## Bury people march against peace camp at Greenham Common

The people of Newbury, Berkshire, yesterday staged a protest against the women's peace camp at Greenham Common. About 300 marched through the town centre to the market place carrying banners reading: "Enough" and "Greenham Common women get out of Newbury".

The march was greeted with applause and shouts of "well done" and "marvellous" by shoppers in the town centre, but it also met with some opposition.

One man twice had to be pulled away by the police when he lay down in front of a Union Jack-bedecked car leading the march. Another man walked beside the procession carrying a placard reading: "I'm for peace women and I live in Newbury".

A girl aged 14 supporting the peace women was taken away by the police when she tried to force her way into the march carrying a banner. There were isolated scuffles when the march finished in the town centre. Later, arguments broke out between the two sides.

The protest was organized by Miss Sheila Shedden, aged 62, a retired nurse, who is 4ft 10in tall. She asked marchers not to retaliate and to ignore supporters of the peace women. She insisted that the demonstration was non-political. People in Newbury were "sick to death

at the unpleasantness they had to suffer. "Their behaviour is a disgrace to womanhood", she said of the Greenham Common women. They were anxious to be martyrs, but the real martyrs were the children they had left behind.

"If you and I kept a child in the conditions some of these children are kept in up there, they would be taken into care", she said.

Miss Shedden, who was commended for bravery when she went to the rescue of policemen during the Second World War, asked why Newbury ratepayers should have to pay for the cost of the Greenham Common women's protest.

Conditions at the camp were a health hazard, she said. Rats had spread to houses near by and an enormous area was "sloppy deep in human excreta". She urged the women to go away and return only for one-day demonstrations.

Mr Jane Bennett, aged 58, a Greenham Common protester, said that the day's march would make no difference and the peace camp would continue.

She said that she had been an antique dealer in Newbury and had paid rates. She denied that children at the camp were ill cared for. "We have only three

children at the camp and they all go to school", she said.

Miss Shedden distributed 15,000 leaflets in support of the demonstration. Marchers were asked to fill in forms stating their objections to the peace camp, which was set up in September, 1981. The forms will be sent to the Prime Minister.

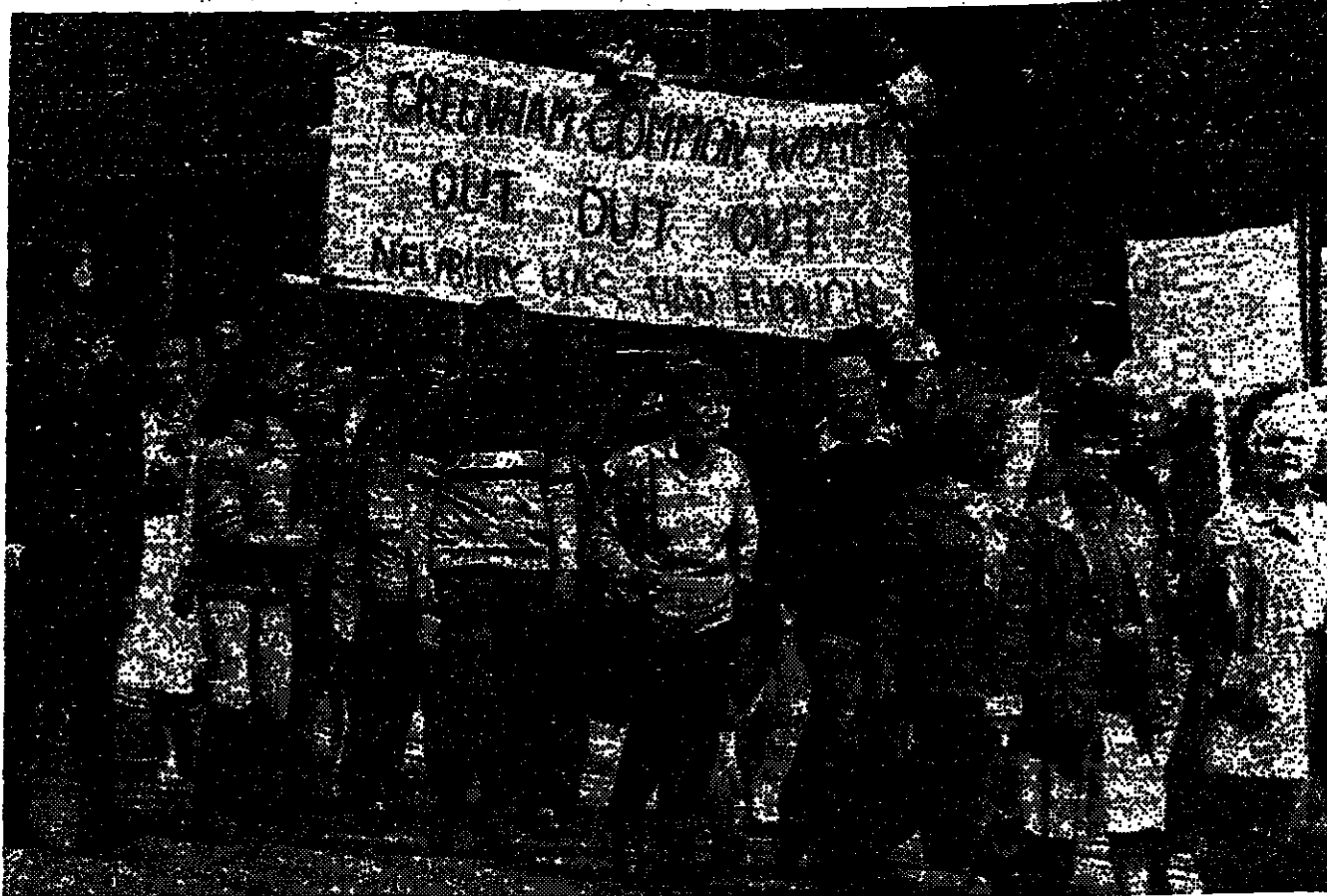
Police made a further 34 arrests yesterday as the four-day attempted blockade of the American air base at Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, continued.

There were 71 arrests on Tuesday as Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament supporters sat down outside the entrances to the base, trying to block the paths of military personnel.

The exercise is to draw attention to the 70 F-111 nuclear fighter bombers based at Upper Heyford.

Initial attempts to close roads to the base failed through lack of numbers and a heavy police presence. Demonstrators were outnumbered by at least three to one, with more police held in reserve.

Supt Wyn Jones, of Thames Valley Police, said that fewer people were involved in the protest yesterday and some of the 11 entrances manned by demonstrators on Tuesday had only a token presence.



People of Newbury marching through the town centre yesterday to demonstrate their opposition to the Greenham Common women's peace camp.

## Father sues Tebbit over son's death

From Our Correspondent

Sheffield  
A father whose son aged 17 was killed on a youth opportunities scheme is to sue Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Employment in a test case.

Mr Richard Cain is to bring a High Court action against Mr Tebbit, the Minister of Labour, Commission and local officials who placed Derek Cain at C Plumb and Son's paper-shredding factory in Wincobank, Sheffield, where he died.

Mr Cain, an unemployed engineering worker, alleges incompetence in managing the scheme and failure to carry out proper safety checks. He wants the MSC to be made to accept a higher degree of legal responsibility for youngsters on YOP schemes.

Derek Cain died in December from head injuries after being hit by the blades of a paper shredding machine. He had been working at the factory for three weeks.

An inquest jury, who returned an open verdict, were told he was operating the machine alone. Proceedings are now being brought against the company under the Factories Act.

In the months up to February, six youngsters, 43 needed amputations and there were 3,211 other injuries.

Mr Cain, aged 41, of Sandstone Avenue, Wincobank, said: "In all these cases the MSC try to shift the blame on to the factory where the youngsters were working. I want to prove that the MSC actually employs the youngsters. They pay their wages and they should accept a greater responsibility for their safety when they send them to firms."

## Cocaine worth £1m seized at hotel

By Stewart Tindler, Crime Reporter

Six men were questioned by Scotland Yard's drug squad yesterday after an undercover operation netted cocaine worth a street value of up to £1m in raids at the Cumberland Hotel, at Marble Arch, in west London.

The operation, begun some weeks ago, ended on Tuesday, when detectives moved into the four-star hotel with the agreement of senior management and security staff.

Shortly after 7 pm a group of officers arrested a group of men drinking in the ground-floor

Nocturne Bar. Other officers searched rooms elsewhere in the hotel. Further arrests were made with the discovery of three kilos of cocaine.

The cocaine, in plastic bags, was examined yesterday by chemists.

A spokesman for the hotel said that the arrests in the bar, close to the busy reception area, were very discreet.

The operation was under the command of Det Chief Supt Roy Penrose, who was recently appointed head of the drugs squad.

## Library ends blacking out racing in newspapers

From Our Correspondent, Greenock

An era of Victorian morality has come to an end in Greenock central library, near Glasgow. It has decided to stop blacking out the racing sections of newspapers, ranging from *The Times* to the *Morning Star*, in its reading room.

Joy Monteith, the chief librarian, said yesterday: "I am absolutely mortified by the whole incident. We are obviously opposed to any form of censorship, but the practice seems to have been carried on unthinkingly since I came here in 1978."

Mr Keith Lawrey, secretary general of the Library Association, asked how widespread the blacking was, said: "I have never heard of it before. Our association is opposed to censorship of any sort." But a colleague in the association said: "This practice started in the nineteenth cen-

tury and was an attempt to keep people away from gin palaces and racing. I thought it had stopped some 50 or 60 years ago."

A spokesman at the Mitchell Library, in Glasgow, claimed to be the largest public reference library in west Europe, said: "I am amazed at the practice surviving. It is a relic of bygone days, when libraries and librarians saw themselves as the guardians of public morality."

Mr John Fabre, secretary of Moral Re-armament, commented: "I think it is a good thing that the library has stopped doing this. I do not know whether someone who has gambled as the deepest thing in his heart would get guidance from God but with blacked out newspapers I think they would need it."

Racing, page 23

## Sale room

## Little known painters in demand

Prices and values in sales of topographical paintings and drawings are by no means always determined by quality. The subject matter is often more important than the level of artistic accomplishment in the execution. Since most bidders, too, are interested only in views of their own countries, the various markets are easily affected by outside political and economic events.

From that point of view, if the results of Sotheby's sale yesterday are anything to go by, most parts of the world seem to be weathering the recession.

By Huon Mallalieu  
Wars and rumours of wars fairly happily. The Greek section produced some remarkable results, most notably a payment of £55,000 by Mr George Kay, a London dealer, for a striking portrait of Katharina Bozzaris, the daughter of a revolutionary hero, by the little known Joseph Stiller (estimate £5,000-£8,000).

From the same sale, the world came a painting of fisherman pulling in their nets, by Constantin Bolonachi, which had been estimated at £15,000 to £20,000 but sold for £39,200 to a private bidder.

The same buyer paid £15,400 for a volume of lithographs of Greek scenes after Charles Kraus, which were published in Munich between 1828 and 1831 (estimate £5,000 to £7,000).

A surprise from the other side of the world was £5,060 paid by Mr Neville Keating, the dealer, for John Skinner Proust's 14 lithographs and text, "Sydney Illustrated", which were published in 1844 and had been estimated at between £300 and £400.

## Battle of the Boyne site to be sold

A piece of Ulster's history, the site of the Battle of the Boyne, is to be auctioned soon. Auctioneers expect the site of King William III's victory in 1690 to raise £150,000.

The 30 acres of farming land, near Drogheda in Co. Louth, is owned by a private trust fund, King William's Field Marshal is buried near by, but there is no longer any memorial marking the battle, commemorated annually in the July 12th parades.

## 'Low' pay offer for railmen

One of the lowest pay offers of the present round was yesterday made to Britain's 160,000 railway workers.

At joint talks in London, British Rail told them they could have 3.75 per cent from the anniversary date of April 18, or 4.25 per cent from the first Monday after settlement. Union negotiators said the offer was not good enough and they would report back to their executives.

## Sierra sales fall to fifth place

The Ford Sierra, which headed British car sales in March and April, dropped to fifth place last month. Ford said yesterday that the company had stopped promoting the car so hard in the showrooms.

The fear of industrial action at Ford's Halewood plant in Liverpool was revived yesterday when the final stage of national negotiating machinery was reached without agreement on proposed efficiency measures.

## Belfast bomb attack foiled

Seven people were being interviewed by police in Belfast last night after two incidents, including one on which security forces believe they foiled a pre-emption bomb attack.

They seized 500 lb of explosives packed into 11 gas cylinders on a van at an industrial estate in West Belfast on Tuesday and arrested six people. Later the same day an armed man was shot and injured after he fled when spotted by a police patrol.

## Murder trial

Richard Anthony Gambrell was sent for trial to Cardiff Crown Court yesterday charged with the murder of Mr John Hughes Williams, aged 61, of Llanddewi Brefi, Dyfed.

Intellectually, the case for the canal looks good. Water transport is clean, cheap and

## No rise in London fares 'for years'

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Fares on London buses and tubes, which came down by a quarter last month, may stay the same for several years, Dr Keith Bright, the Transport chairman, predicted yesterday.

That will be achieved not by higher subsidies from rates and taxes but by staff reductions and higher productivity, he declared, announcing an effort by LT to break out of the spiral of rising fares and declining services of recent years.

A three-year plan submitted to the Government and the Greater London Council yesterday proposes:

A virtual abolition of ticket collectors on the Underground, with automatic barriers in the central area and open stations on the outskirts.

Travelling inspectors with powers to impose on-the-spot fines of up to £50 on fare-dodgers, who cost LT £30m a year.

A major shift from revenue support to capital investment, with the former falling from £209m to £167m over the next three years and the latter rising from £150m to £200m.

A sharp drop in staff from 58,000 to 52,000 and productivity rises of 11 per cent on the buses and 4 per cent on the tubes compared with falls of 13 and 20 per cent respectively over the past five years.

More new buses, trains and station improvements, with more one-person-operated buses.

Possible subcontracting of uneconomic services to minibuses

## Big barges bring hope of a canal revival

By Our Transport Editor

Britain's biggest freight canal investment for 75 years was launched in Rotherham yesterday amid slender hopes that it would boost investment and employment in a depressed South Yorkshire.

The £16m South Yorkshire canal improvement, increasing barge capacity from 90 to 700 tonnes from Rotherham to the Humber ports, was opposed by successive governments for years until Labour approved it on the eve of the last general election.

Now it symbolizes the hopes of conservationists that the last transport revolution but three (inland waterways stimulated the first industrial revolution in the eighteenth century) heading for a resurgence.

Intellectually, the case for the canal looks good. Water transport is clean, cheap and quiet, and one 700-tonne barge is the equivalent of 35 of the least juggernauts.

Unfortunately, canals are even more remote than railways, computer centres and electronics factories where economic resurgence is likely to be experienced.

The British Waterways Board predicts a growth from 500,000 to nearly two million tonnes over the next five years.

Sir Frank Price, the board's chairman and tireless advocate of the project, declared yesterday that commercial waterways are heading for a second innings, and if the initial investment is followed up with vision, enterprise and courage, new factories will put down roots along the waterway.

## Phone tapping violated convention

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

upheld a complaint by Mr James Malone, of Dorchester, that there was a breach of his rights when police tapped a telephone conversation in 1977.

The finding, forecast in *The Times* in January, will be referred to the European Court of Human Rights, where it is

expected to lead to a ruling against the United Kingdom.

Mr Malone was charged in 1977 with offences relating to handling of stolen goods. He was acquitted. But during the trial it emerged that a telephone conversation had been intercepted by the police.

## Case for Sizewell 'tissue thin'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The economic case for building an American type of pressurized water nuclear reactor (PWR) at Sizewell, in Suffolk, is "tissue thin", a submission opposing the project by the Council for the Protection of Rural England says.

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Mr Robin Grove-White, the council's director, said: "The CEBG's plans will have a massive impact on England's countryside. We are opposing Sizewell B because if allowed it would be the first of a succession of similar major schemes around our remote coastline and countryside, perhaps as many as twenty over the next 25 years.

"More modest investment in

## Falklands seamen seek jobs

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Union of Seamen paraded 10 unemployed veterans of the Falklands campaign, complete with South Atlantic medals, at its headquarters in London yesterday, and protested to Mrs Margaret Thatcher that hundreds of Merchant Navy ratings who had risked death were now "abandoned to the humiliation of unemployment."

Mr James Slater, general secretary of the NUS, has written to the Prime Minister to say that if she is re-elected and does not change government shipping policy, the merchant fleet will be halved by 1990.

Seamen's leaders are seeking and exclusive right for British ships to carry coastal cargoes round Britain, and state aid for the shipping industry on a scale which they say is given to competitor countries.

The NUS says that more than 500 merchant seamen of the 7,000 who served as volunteers with the Falklands task force are unemployed and many more may soon join them.

In his letter to Mrs Thatcher, Mr Slater says: "Among British seamen a deep fund of bitterness has been created by the way in which their services were rewarded. They were called upon in your hour of need, but their plight today is ignored as they are abandoned to the humiliation of unemployment."

"You have a special responsibility not only to those Falklands veterans but also to the British people as a whole to defend this country's proud maritime heritage and maintain a strong merchant fleet for the benefit of future generations."

"You have failed to do so, and sadly this union must conclude from your determination to continue the disastrous policies of the last four years that the reelection of a Conservative government will lead inevitably to the demise of Britain's merchant fleet."

These extraordinary results give rise to the possibility that pockets of primitive bacteria live in other inhospitable and unlikely places, both on the Earth and in space, and the reason why nobody has yet found them is simply that they have not been looking.

Source: *Nature*, vol 303, p 423 (1983).  
© Nature-Times News Service, 1983.

## Police doctors unhappy with new breath machine

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The new electronic breath-testing machine is to be investigated after reports from some police doctors of a high failure rate.

The Association of Police Surgeons is to conduct a three-month survey on the machine after reports from some members that they are being called out as much as three or four times a week.

Dr Hugh de la Haye Davies, the association's secretary, said yesterday: "We are not criticising the machine, which has been well tested and is accurate. The fault is that it is too accurate. It is so built up with fail-safe devices that it does not operate if the slightest thing goes wrong."

When that happens the police surgeons are being called to take blood samples, he said. Under

the new system doctors had expected to be less involved.

The survey, conducted through 30 police surgeons throughout the country, will also look at how often police surgeons are being called out to take samples in borderline cases. Those are where the motorist has 40 to 50 mg of alcohol in 100ml of breath, although the legal limit is 35 mg.

The new machines, or Intoximeters, were installed a month ago in more than 700 police stations. The Home Office is also monitoring the accuracy of the machine's readings. Field trials on 1,500 motorists stopped on suspicion of being over the legal limit have shown very similar results between the new machines and blood or urine samples.

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Case for Sizewell 'tissue thin'

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

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## Women's institutes in drive to gain new image among the young

By a Correspondent

The National Association of Women's Institutes is hoping to add a campaigning and caring image to its present "jam and Jerusalem" reputation at its annual meeting in London today.

To do that it believes it needs to attract women between the ages of 30 and 50, who now make up a small proportion of its membership. It has launched a bright new video which puts across the message, accompanied by a pop music song written for the institute. "Prospects are sky high at the WI".

But most of all the WI will present its national campaign, Women in the Community, to show the wide range of activities it is involved with and which it feels are in need of change.

The promotion includes women in education, in health and in public life, and hopes to encourage its members in each of these areas.

The WI suggests that the Education Act 1944, should be amended to make adult education a compulsory part of government spending; more women should be in central and



Mrs Harris: "Change in ideas, not ideals".

local government and there should be training and preparation for that, and a greater awareness of all things to do with health.

Although these are not great policy changes, WI leaders hope they can be promoted in a way that will give the organization the standing of the important pressure group they say it is.

"We want a change in ideas

and image without a change in ideals", Mrs Anne Harris, the WI chairman, told *The Times*. "The jam and Jerusalem is still there but we are also about friendship and fun. I want people to know what we really do and who we really are".

The fall in membership, now totalling 370,000, is not considered to be serious but Mrs Harris admitted that if it continued financial difficulties would result. However, help from commercial organizations, including British Home Stores and the National Westminster Bank, is being received in far greater measure.

Today's meeting, at the Albert Hall, in London, will include discussion on four policy areas: the legal status of artificially produced embryos, care of the terminally ill, the rights of widowers to gain a pension on the death of their wives if contributions are made to a pension scheme, and the need for planning permission for agricultural buildings, some of which are exempt from planning controls.

It will also include the singing of "Jerusalem".

## Campaign to protect sale deposits

By Our Correspondent

The six metropolitan authorities have launched a campaign for legislation to protect people from companies which accept money for ordered goods and go bankrupt before delivery.

A present there is nothing to stop firms on the verge of insolvency from placing prepaid cash in their accounts. The authorities want any money paid as a cash deposit for goods or services to be lodged in separate accounts, or covered by bonding guarantee that the money is safe.

## Guitarist's drug death

Mr Peter Farndon, aged 30, guitarist with the Pretenders group, drowned in the bath after taking a combination of heroin and cocaine, an inquest at Westminster Coroner's Court heard yesterday. He was the second member of the group to die from a drugs overdose within a year.

The Coroner, Dr Paul Knapman, recorded a verdict of drug addiction.

## Woman spotted bomb hoaxers



Miss Julie Michaels-Anyibofu, aged 20, a West End secretary, was awarded £150 at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for trapping two bomb hoaxers. She overheard two men making a telephone call saying that an IRA bomb had been planted in the Natwest Tower, in the city. She followed them and identified them to the police.

## New presenter for TV-am

Miss Anne Diamond, aged 28, formerly of BBC television *Nationwide*, has been appointed a presenter of TV-am's *Good Morning Britain* programme. For several weeks, TV-am has had an average viewing figure of 200,000, compared with the BBC's breakfast programme peak of two million.

## Attempt on Atlantic record

Tom McClean, a former SAS member, flew to Canada yesterday to try to recapture the record for sailing across the Atlantic in the smallest boat. Mr McClean, aged 41, from Mammaig on the west coast of Scotland, will sail from St Johns in a weeks time in his tiny boat *Giltspur* which is just 7 feet 10 inches long.

## Eating into French breakfast habits

By John Lawless

The idea of the French being persuaded to abandon coffee-dunked croissants in favour of a British egg and bacon breakfast will take a step nearer becoming reality next week when eight of France's top retailers will be guests of the government-backed Food from Britain campaign.

"We will be giving them a full British breakfast on the first morning", the campaign's marketing manager, Mr Trevor Barker explained yesterday. "Eggs, bacon and much more".

Market research has put bacon at the top of Britain's potential best-sellers in France and the Egg Authority will have a stand of its own at the Royal Show, in Stoneleigh, Warwickshire, to push its case of the plate towards Britain's EEC partners.

Twenty-five foreign senior store managers have been invited, representing Food from Britain's first important promotion, and probably the biggest inward mission of buyers which Britain has funded.

Most are from France, but others are from West Germany and the Benelux countries, and one from the United States. "They are coming from our priority markets, and are top people from stores like Prisma and Carrefour", Mr Barker said.

The 55 million French people spend £27,000m a year on food, but how they will take to Britain's other priority sales sectors is open to question.

British researchers emphasize that even *pain* can be challenged. They feel sufficiently confident to suggest

that British-made crispbread has a great potential in France (a claim that will raise a few Scandinavian eyebrows). But then, so have biscuits, cakes, chocolates, frozen foods and even cheese.

"We will also put a particular emphasis on selling British lamb in France", Mr Barker said. "It has caused some problems in the past, but the indications are that the market is now receptive".

Only last month French farmers seized a lorry loaded with British mutton at Cherbourg and poured fuel oil over it. But promotions for lamb are shortly to be staged in several French cities.

"In the short term we are talking about half-a-dozen big group promotions, not just one-off shop events", Mr Barker said.

Whether next Monday's lunch menu will be split country by country is not known. But the prospects for West Germans look best for specialty beefs and they will be urged to buy more tea, whisky, fruits and vegetables.

"Celery shows great potential", Mr Barker added.

Britain has sold more than 250,000 tonnes of wheat to Poland since the last harvest in a long campaign to reduce stocks by selling abroad. But the Home Grown Cereals Authority reported yesterday that Britain still has a "mountain" of well over a million tonnes stored off the market under EEC rules (Hugh Clayton writes).

Most of the stock consisted of barley, but there is still about 400,000 tonnes of wheat, despite exports since last summer's harvest.

## Big increase in business sponsorship of arts

By Frances Gibb

Sponsorship of the arts by business has risen from less than £1m seven years ago to £13m a year, according to the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts.

One reason is a growing appreciation by companies of the marketing potential in such sponsorship. Mr Nicholas Owen, chairman of the association's management committee, said: "A few years ago companies thought sponsoring the arts was entirely charitable."

"Now they realize there is also another aspect; it is a tool

they can use for corporate promotion in one form or another."

When the association was set up in 1976 under Mr Luke Rittner, now secretary-general designate of the Arts Council, business was estimated to be spending about £750,000 a year on the arts. But the findings of a survey taken among the association's 125 members show spending now to be about £13m a year.

The rate of growth had been running at between 25 and 30 per cent a year, Mr Owen said.

## Family seeks state-paid flight to Australia

Mrs Cynthia Newsome, who was called a scrounger when she and her five children arrived in Britain from Australia penniless four years ago, asked for money again yesterday to return to Australia.

Under Britain's social security laws the state may foot the bill of £1,500 if officials think it will save them money in the long run.

Mrs Newsome caused an uproar when she arrived in her home town of Rotherham with no money and was given a

council house, £200 in state benefits, furniture and £50 a week social security benefits.

When Mr Newsome arrived he admitted he had £5,000 in savings. He was later fined £150 for defrauding the Department of Health and Social Security.

The couple's marriage ended in divorce last year after 25 years but they remarried in February. Last week Mr Newsome walked out and Mrs Newsome is asking for the air fare to return with her family to Australia.



## Irish banks reject the British pound coin

Banks in the Irish Republic are refusing to recognize the British pound coin, saying it is "too bulky and expensive to handle".

Shops, hotels and public houses throughout the republic, however, failed to get the message on time and after last weekend's Bank holiday influx of British tourists they have been left with thousands of now worthless pounds.

Dublin County Council said yesterday that it wanted the estate to look as good as possible for its opening, so it rented about fifty trees and a hundred shrubs.

Householders near an industrial estate in Dublin were delighted this week when a landscaped garden suddenly appeared at the gates of the site. But the next morning the trees and shrubs were just as quickly uprooted by workmen.

Dublin County Council said yesterday that it wanted the estate to look as good as possible for its opening, so it rented about fifty trees and a hundred shrubs.

This swirring ragged brown leather cape draped with fox tails price £275, designed by Brian Rennie, a student at Ravensbourne College of Art in Chislehurst, Kent was the best trim award winner with a £100 prize, in the annual Saga Design Awards held in London yesterday.

Students of Harrow College of Higher Education, in north-west London and Ravensbourne College of Art competed (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

## Wife's fears for injured Red Devil

From Our Correspondent

The wife of sergeant-major Kenneth Yeoman, of the Red Devils free-fall team, who broke his back saving a colleague described her fears about his determination to jump again.

Sergeant-major Yeoman, aged 37, who is paralysed below the waist, was transferred yesterday by helicopter from Truro, where he underwent surgery after the accident, to Stoke Mandeville Hospital, in Buckinghamshire.

He was injured when he landed heavily after clutching on to corporal Kenneth Campbell, whose parachute failed to open while the Red Devils were training in Cornwall on May 4.

Mrs Rose Yeoman, aged 33, who spent more than two weeks at his bedside after the accident, said yesterday: "He is determined to get better. He has put a lot into the Red Devils and wants to get back in the team and jump again as soon as possible."

"That's understandable, but I really do not want him to jump again."

Mrs Yeoman, who has two teenage sons and a daughter, aged eight, said: "All we can do now is take every day as it comes. It is quite hard at times to carry on as normal, but the children and I cannot let Kenneth see that we are worried. We have got to be strong for his sake. He has been in an awful lot of pain, yet he has never complained."

Sergeant-major Yeoman who has been in The Parachute Regiment for 19 years, joined the Red Devils just over three years ago. He has been married for 16 years.

Mrs Yeoman, from Aldershot, Hampshire, added: "I have every confidence that he will be all right. He felt pins and needles in his feet on Tuesday and that is good sign."

Her son Paul, aged 14, said he could not wait to make his first parachute jump.

## Some parents and children approve of video 'nasties'

By Kenneth Goding

"I am just delivering 'Nightmares in a Damaged Brain' for the Speights and their five children", a video dealer in Leeds said as he drove a vanload of horror films round to clients.

Stephen Taylor, the dealer, was the first to be prosecuted under section 2 of the Obscene Publications Act. He was fined £500, which he thought excessive.

In a documentary film, "A Gentleman's Agreement?" to be shown on Channel 4 next Wednesday, having been cleared by the Independent Broadcasting Authority, he explains why his customers have a big appetite for video "nasties".

He also explains why, although he thinks the fine should have been halved, he was happy to be the first to be prosecuted for dealing in obscene video films. "If I had been the second I might have got six months' imprisonment".

The film, made by Broadside with the aim of drawing public attention to the issue with which video such as "SS Experiment Camp" can be rented, also shows interviews with children and parents who raise no objection to horror and violence.

One child says: "They are true life films about everyday things".

"True life" includes the story of a woman who is raped

by four men and is then shown, in a matter of blood, taking her revenge in "SS Experiment Camp".

Mr Taylor says in the documentary, that he conducted a survey among his customers to ask whether they approved of video "nasties", now the subject of a voluntary code of practice drawn up by the British Videogram Association. "Not one of them objected", he says.

One of the parents interviewed explains that no one from outside sees the horror films the family sees regularly. "If anyone is going to be corrupted by them it will only be us", she says.

But Mr Gareth Wardell, who in the last Parliament withdrew a private member's Bill aimed at legislating against the "nasties" to see if a voluntary code works, says the profits are too big for it to be possible to impose "a gentleman's agreement on people who basically are not gentlemen".

Dr Alan Gilmore, of the NSPCC, speaks of the permanent damage some videos can do to children. "Just as it is wrong to let a three-year-old have matches to play with, or a seven-year-old to have a loaded shotgun around him, I think children need protection from strong videos as well".

## 'Prevent children from seeing sex films'

From Richard Garner, of *The Times Educational Supplement*, Harrogate

Britain's head teachers are to demand Government action to prevent children from viewing home video films depicting extreme violence and pornography.

The National Association of Head Teachers voted overwhelmingly in favour of the motion at its conference in Harrogate yesterday after hearing that the availability of sex films was unchecked, leading to "an orgy of commercialism".

Mr Peter Roberts, headmaster of Samuel Ward Upper School, Havant, Hants, proposed the motion, saying that groups of young children were clubbing together to hire such films.

He said that legislation was

necessary to curb the excesses of pirate video suppliers who refused to abide by a code of practice. He also felt the films should be given a classification.

Mr Roberts said there was a danger of children imitating the behaviour they saw on the films, or having their sensibilities blunted or desensitized.

The conference also called for greater protection to be given to head teachers who risked suspension from their jobs.

Mr Derek Best, chairman of the associations Professional and Legal Services Committee, had told the conference that some had been suspended after "mischievous" statements from children about improper behaviour.

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"The response was good, very good."

"So much so we took a whole-page colour in 1980. And again the response was good."

For further information, contact Head of Advertisement Department, BBC Publications, 33 Marylebone High Street, London W1M 4AA. Telephone: 01-580 5577.

Source: NRS (ICNARS) July-December 1982.

RadioTimes

## US astronomers claim a planet is born

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

The first tentative identification of a planet outside our own solar system will be announced this summer by a group of American astronomers.

An object close to the young star T Tauri seems to be a large planet in the process of formation, according to Dr Douglas Lin and colleagues at the University of California, Santa Cruz, who have analysed observations made by

several American telescopes over the last 18 months.

There proposal is likely to start a scientific controversy when it is published in the July issue of *Astrophysical Journal Letters*.

Some astronomers who are familiar with the observations maintain that the mysterious object is more likely to represent a very small new star which has not yet switched itself on properly and is still

masked by dust. But Dr Lin believes that the planetary hypothesis is the best explanation for the evidence so far.

The discovery of a "proto-planet" in the process of formation would have great implications. First, it could tell astronomers a lot about the early development of the solar system.

Secondly, it would add weight to the argument that life is widespread elsewhere in

the Universe. Any intelligent life remotely like our own would have to evolve on a planet, and although most astronomers believe that many other stars have planetary systems, they have had no direct evidence to reject the possibility that the solar system arose through a unique accident.

The proposed proto-planet is called T Tauri Infrared Companion (TIRC).



## Tebbit ridicules Labour plan to pay young people to stay at school

By Our Political Staff

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday dismissed with ridicule the Labour Party's plan to encourage young people aged between 16 and 18 to stay on in full-time education by paying them £25 a week.

That was among the schemes listed by Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour's education spokesman, at the party's London campaign press conference, which he said would bring hope to young people who were now leaving school in a mood of cynicism, despair and disillusionment.

Mr Kinnock said he recently saw some graffiti on the back of a lorry saying: "Vote for Maggie, retire at 16". He thought there could be no more accurate assessment of the effect of Tory policies.

Later, Mr Tebbit at the Conservative campaign press conference, picked on Mr Kinnock's £25 a week incentive to people to carry on at school.

"As I understand it, the Labour Party are going to finance this by withdrawing the child allowance, so that means that £6 or £7 a week is taken out of the mother's housekeeping."

"Then they tax the father on the value of £25 allowance to his child. So what Mr Kinnock is proposing, in essence, is that the mother gets less housekeeping, the father gets less money in his wage packet, so that the youngster should have more pocket money and be able to

strengthen family life by giving his mother some of it each week."

"That is a curious way of inspiring hope and helplessness."

Mr Kinnock backed by Mr Roy Hattersley, produced figures showing the relentless increase in the number of young unemployed during the past four years, and told of the frustration felt by youngsters who left school full of hope and optimism, hoping to do well for themselves, their families and for society.

Labour would restore higher education places to their former levels, Mr Kinnock said. They would be for the qualified young people who had been denied places by the Government's expenditure cuts - 61,000 since 1980 - and for adults who needed, and could use, higher education facilities.

Labour would establish two-year student-traineeship to give every 16 and 17-year old school-leaver the modern skills required to meet present needs. That would give time for thorough courses, leading to additional qualifications and a realistic mixture of education, training, work experience and career counselling," Mr Kinnock said.

"And in our 'Earning for Learning' scheme we shall make sure that every young person gets an income to help the family budget: £25 a week to

those in full-time education, and at least £30 a week for those on training schemes, a sum which will be re-negotiated annually by the trade unions to maintain its value."

Mr Neil Kinnock said that young people in work would have the right to training and educational leave, with full pay, so that they could be equipped with modern aptitudes. "Our training scheme will be pathway to work, and not a gangplank to despair," Mr Kinnock declared.

Mr Hattersley claimed that the Job Opportunities Programme as operated by the Tories, had meant that young people on a pittance of £25 a week had little chance of a job at the end of the year's training.

Mr Tebbit was full of optimism about the prospects of a successful launch of the Youth Training Scheme in mid-September. "Up to the middle of May, 90 per cent of the 460,000 places required had been identified," he said.

"Mode A places - where employers take on youngsters directly - have come forward very well. The target had been set at 300,000 and almost 95 per cent have been identified."

Support from industry had been outstanding Mr Tebbit said. He was confident that the party's pledge to have all school leavers in a job or a training scheme by Christmas would be kept.

## Falklands veteran embarrasses Thatcher

From Philip Webster  
Political Reporter  
Edin

The Falklands War, one of the prime factors behind Mrs Margaret Thatcher's personal popularity, caused her an embarrassing dilemma in Scotland yesterday.

Her trip to a weaving mill in Edin, in the marginal Mearns constituency in the Grampians, was dominated by a one-man protest from an unemployed Falklands veteran.

Mr Steven Sherrett, aged 34, a sergeant in the 2nd Battalion Scots Guards, stood outside the premises of James Johnston and Co with a banner proclaiming: "Unemployed Falklands hero (the word hero was crossed out) veteran requires job. Apply here. Give a job. Prime Minister."

He, rather than Mrs Thatcher's walk around the factory, caused the main focus of media attention. Mr Sherrett, who is married with three children, said that he had fought in the battle of Tumbledown Mountain and saw action throughout the campaign. He left the Army in April after 12 years' service.

Mr Sherrett told reporters: "I can't find a job. It is not for want of trying. I have applied for jobs as a social worker, sales rep, van driver and security guard. All I want to do is work. I am completely disillusioned."

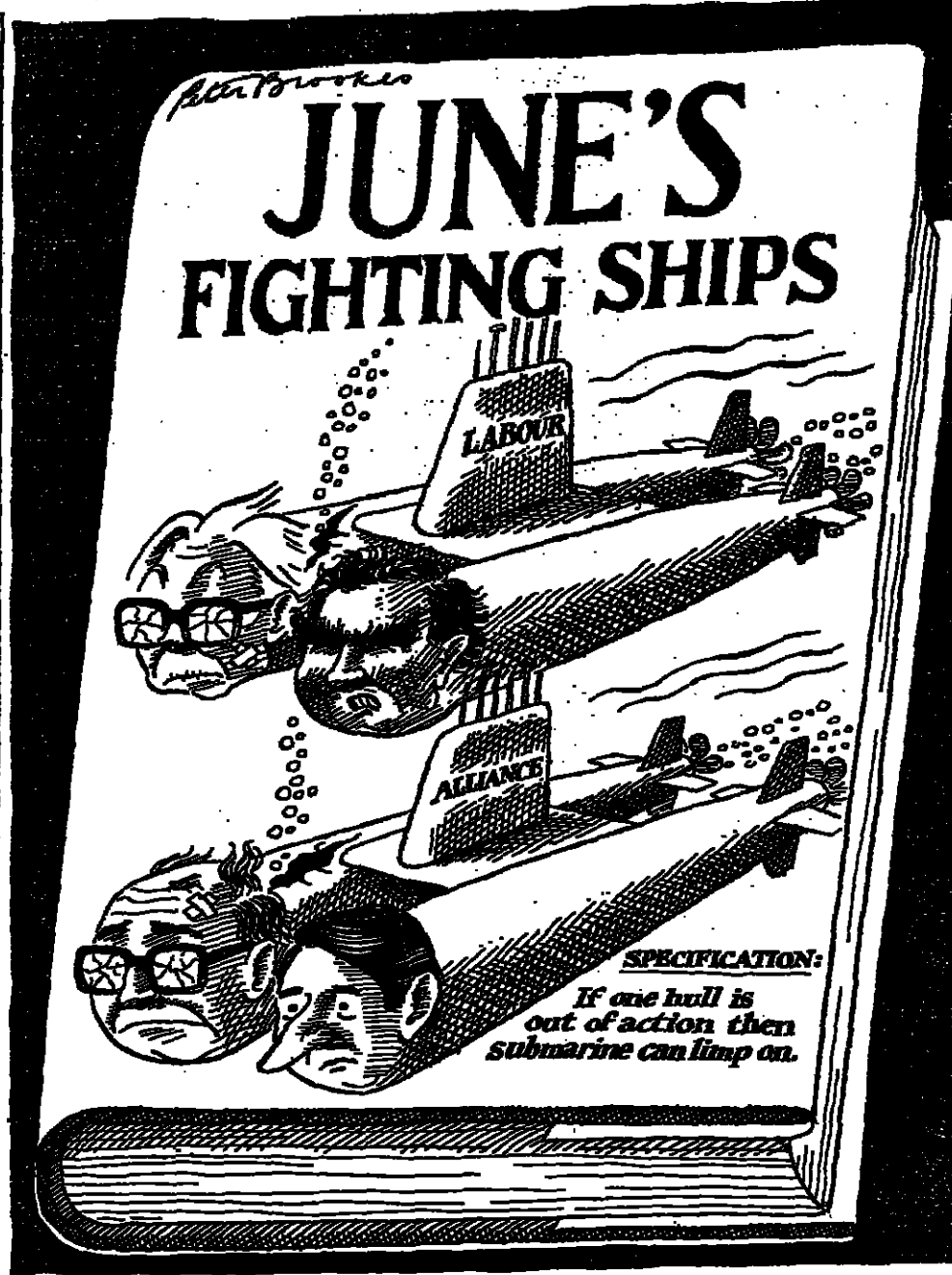
Mrs Thatcher was faced with the dilemma of whether to talk to him and her aides conferred anxiously while she looked round the mill. In the end, her staff took details from the man but she decided against speaking to him.

As she came out of the press conference before leaving the factory, she waved to the crowd where he was standing and said: "We are very late."

The previous evening the Prime Minister had received a hostile reception from demonstrators in a crowd of about 1,000 outside the Station Hotel in Inverness, where she had flown after her speech at a rally in Edinburgh. An egg was thrown which hit a journalist.

Yesterday she concentrated her brief visit on the marginal constituencies of Moray and Inverness, Nairn and Lochaber. The Tories hope to win the latter from Mr James Johnston, the Liberal. He had a majority of more than 4,000 at the last election, but new boundaries have removed Liberal Isle of Skye and added Tory Nairn.

In Moray, they will be defending Mr Alex Pollock's 1979 majority of 422 votes from a strong Scottish National Party challenge. The seat has had part of the once Nationalist Banffshire added and Mr Hamish Watt, the former SNP MP, is regarded as one of the SNP's best hopes.



## SNP is fighting for its life

From Ian Bradley, Glasgow

The Conservatives may look certain to win the election in England but it is equally certain that they will lose it in Scotland, just as they have in every general election since 1955.

Yet the majority of Labour MPs consistently returned north of the Borders are powerless to halt the country's decline. Therefore the only way to help Scotland is to "halt Thatcher at the border" by voting for the Nationalists.

That is the message which the Scottish National Party is trying to put across. It claims that only by playing the nationalist card can Scots make an impact on the government elected on June 9. But it is an argument which seems to be failing on deaf ears. The SNP stands at only around 10 per cent in the polls and the party seems destined to come a poor fourth in many seats.

Ten years ago the SNP was scoring over 50 per cent in some opinion polls and in the October 1974 election it won 11 seats. Although it lost all but two of those at the last election, it still scored a respectable 17.3 per cent of the vote in Scotland. This time the party looks in serious danger of being wiped

off the political map.

How has this come about at a time of unprecedented unemployment in Scotland, when nationalism might seem to have a strong appeal to a country which has consistently proved more resistant than any other in the United Kingdom to Mrs Thatcher's brand of Conservatism?

One reason is undoubtedly the failure of the last Labour Government devolution Bill in 1979. Mr Gordon Wilson, chairman of the SNP and one of the party's two surviving MPs in the last Parliament, admits: "The issue had been running so strongly throughout the 1970s that it had really exhausted itself and it was impossible to keep the momentum going."

The other main reason for the Nationalists' loss of support is their own internal feuding. For the last few years the party has been locked in a bitter struggle between those who put Scottish independence first at all costs and a younger left-wing element who came into the party in the mid-1970s arguing that the first priority should be the pursuit of Socialism; only in that way, they said, could the SNP strike at Labour's heartland in West

Central Scotland and become the major political force in the country.

The row culminated in the expulsion from the party of some of the most vocal left-wingers. Although most have now been promised reinstatement in return for a pledge of loyalty to the leadership, the bitter squabbling of the past few years has left the party weakened.

The victory of the "independence first" traditionalists has meant that the SNP has not been able to challenge Labour in the Old industrial areas of Scotland. The nationalists' main hopes in this election lie in predominantly rural Tory-held seats like Argyll and Bute, Banff and Buchan, and North Tayside.

Ironically the party's biggest hope in this election is in the constituency which voted most decisively against home rule for Scotland in the 1979 referendum. In Orkney and Shetland, Mrs Winnifred Ewing, whose victory in the Hamilton by-election in 1967 started the SNP revival, hopes to pick up much of the support that formerly went to the ruling Liberal MP Mr Jo Grimmond.

## Blunder by Foot retracted

By Anthony Bevis,  
Political Correspondent

Mr Michael Foot yesterday retracted a pledge that National Insurance charges would not go up under Labour's programme for government.

He had said in an Independent Television News interview on Tuesday that the party was not proposing any such increase. Indeed, he added, Labour wanted in some respects to reduce such payments.

That section of the interview was not broadcast, but as *The Times* pointed out yesterday Labour is committed to the abolition of the upper ceiling of £220 a week on earnings-related National Insurance contributions. That would raise an extra £1,000m from employers and employees.

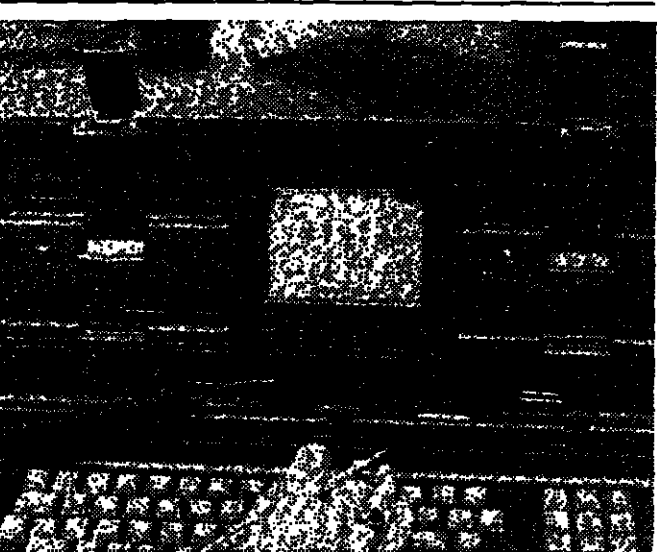
One of Mr Foot's Shadow Cabinet colleagues also said last week that Labour's plans for increases of up to £3,000m in pensions and social security benefits could mean increases in basic contributions.

At the end of yesterday's Labour press conference, Mr Foot volunteered a statement on the matter.

He said: "I did make a mistake yesterday in a reply I gave about the National Insurance charge, and I would like to take this opportunity to correct it."

"When I said that we planned to cut National Insurance, I was referring to the National Insurance Surcharge. Our policy on National Insurance contributions is clear. We do not plan to increase contribution rates, but we do intend to abolish the ceiling on National Insurance contributions."

"At present, workers pay exactly the same contribution if they earn £220 a week or if they earn £1,000 a week. We do not think that is right. We think that on £1,000 a week should make a proper contribution to improving benefits for the poor and helping to rebuild our economy."



Inside information: Part of the Swingometer programme on display

## Downing Street expert in home computer market

By David Hewson

Campaign addicts who want to know the precise detail of the psephological advice offered to Mrs Thatcher before she called the election can now find it on a home computer programme being offered for sale to the public at £29.95 a copy.

The programme, written by Mr Christopher Monckton, aged 31, a member of the Downing Street Central Policy Unit, was originally produced to provide the unit with a convenient electoral ready reckoner.

The Tories' political opponents were unaware that Swingometer, as Mr Monckton has christened the programme, had origins so close to the centre of Downing Street until they were told by *The Times* yesterday.

But given the current state of the opinion polls, it offers little comfort for Mrs Thatcher's opponents. On Swingometer's reckoning, yesterday's poll rating of 44 per cent of voters for the Conservatives, 32 per cent for Labour and 21 per cent for the Alliance, would have produced a Tory landslide of a 16-seat overall majority.

Even if the electorate was equally divided between all three parties, the seats would break down to 304 for Labour, 256 Tories, and 69 Alliance, leaving Labour 22 seats short of an overall majority.

Mr Monckton, a former newspaper leader writer, said that he came to write the programme because the unit needed a psephological guide and had an American-made Osborne portable computer to hand. The programme has also been adapted to run on the more basic Sinclair ZX81 home computer, though the results take a little longer to arrive.

One of the important lessons the unit learnt from the programme, Mr Monckton said, was that so long as the Tories maintained a five-point lead over Labour and the Alliance vote did not start to approach 30 per cent, the Conservatives could count on an overall majority.

Swingometer is available for £29.95 a copy plus 50p postage from Impex Portable Software, Bedford House, Rockcliffe Street, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire.

## Joseph softens school vouchers option

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, yesterday played down the possibility of a Conservative government introducing a voucher system to widen parental choice of schools within the state educational system.

The manifesto says that ways will be sought to widen school choice for parents, but the first edition of *Daily Votes*, issued as more problems than the alternative of open enrolment. Under his system, local authorities make provision for schools to contract and expand "rapidly", in line with fluctuations in parental demand.

the child's education at a maintained school of the parents' choice."

But Sir Keith suggested at yesterday's campaign press conference that vouchers raised more problems than the alternative of open enrolment. Under his system, local authorities make provision for schools to contract and expand "rapidly", in line with fluctuations in parental demand.

He said: "Open enrolment is, I think, the much less complicated option. It is already being tried out in one of the educational districts of Kent. It's got its own problems, but it is an easier option."

Sir Keith also gave an assurance that the Conservatives were in no way committed to a partial replacement of student grants with a mixed system of grants and loans, in order to "widen student access to higher education".

He said: "There is absolutely no commitment to it, no worked-out proposals and there would be widespread consultation."

Dr Rhodes Boyson, a Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Education, and a known advocate of vouchers and student loans, said that he was not disappointed by Sir Keith's caution.

## 12% support ecologists, poll finds

An opinion poll published yesterday showed that potential support for the Ecology Party was well above its target of 5 per cent of the vote.

The poll, conducted by Market and Opinion Research International was hailed as "a great encouragement" by the party even though the survey showed that 72 per cent of the electorate would not consider voting for it, against 12 per cent who would.

Jean Lambert, the party's agent in London, said it had evidence of growing support from disaffected Liberals.

If Mrs Thatcher is returned to Downing Street, the prospect for the next few years is for a direct and possibly bloody confrontation between the Department of the Environment and a small out vocal array of Labour city councils. Under Conservative manifesto proposals, the government would by law ordain the rate levy in Sheffield, Manchester, Hackney, Islington and the GLC (before its proposed abolition in 1990). But it is unlikely, Labour councillors say, that the radicals in power in these authorities will sit idly by while their municipal power is extinguished.

Tomorrow: Devolution

### CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

#### Cambridgeshire NE

## Familiar faces in fenland

CANDIDATES  
C. Freud (L/All)  
N. Duval (C)  
R. J. Harris (Lab)

Mr Clement Freud has, he insists, lived down his past. When ten years ago he first won the Isle of Ely seat for the Liberals, in a by-election which followed the death of Sir Harry Legge-Bourke, the Conservative, Mr Freud's lugubrious face and voice seemed to be forever on television being satirical.

But that was all long ago. If a few people voted for him then because he was one of those funny London chaps on the telly, he has since patiently succeeded by making himself familiar in person to his constituents.

Of his popularity there can be little doubt. All across the flat fenland of what has now been unromantically rechristened Cambridgeshire North-East the bright orange posters glow in hundreds of village front gardens.

People open their front doors to him (he asked me to choose them at random to prove that it is not pre-arranged) and greet him with broad smiles of recognition. He claims to know 30,000 of his constituents.

At an early evening meeting at a club for the elderly and disabled in Wisbech, he pre-

### Profile of Cambridgeshire NE

1981 % Own Occ	83
1981 % Black/Ash	0.6
1981 % Mid Cl	40
1981 % Prof man	45
1982 % Electorate	70,000
1979 BBC/ITN national result	L maj 1,400

Key: % Owner Occ: proportion owning their own homes; % Black/Ash: proportion of black and Asian population; % Mid Cl: proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: proportion of professional, managerial, and independent business; BBC/ITN national result: calculation of what result would have been in 1979 in new boundary constituencies by joint BBC/ITN study team.

sents the Alliance as the only realistic alternative for those who dislike what the Thatcher government has done. He deplores the fact that teachers and nurses are unemployed when schools and hospitals are overcrowded and starved of funds.

Mr Nick Duval, his Conservative opponent, also has the advantage of a familiar face for a reporter and presenter for Anglia Television, an occupation he combines with farming.

His campaign literature strongly emphasizes agricultural issues in an area where the rich, dark soil has traditionally nurtured wheat, sugar and potatoes, but where vast fields

of barley and oilseed rape now stretch to the low horizons and where pig farmers are in serious trouble.

He has discounted public meetings in favour of a "road show" in a brightly-decorated caravan, from which young helpers descend to knock on doors and invite people to meet the candidate. The "community" politics of Mr Freud are dismissed as "parish pump".

Next to the overriding issues of unemployment and defence comes that of the standing of the leader himself. Mr Geoffrey Harper, Mr Duval's agent and a recent recruit from Manchester, concedes that love is too strong a word but that she commands respect, albeit often grudging. "She came here in March and did a walkabout in Chatteris, and it was a great success."

Covering some 450 square miles, the constituency is one of the largest in England. Boundary changes have segregated Ely itself from its ancient diocese and incorporated three wards from the expanding town of Peterborough in the far north-west.

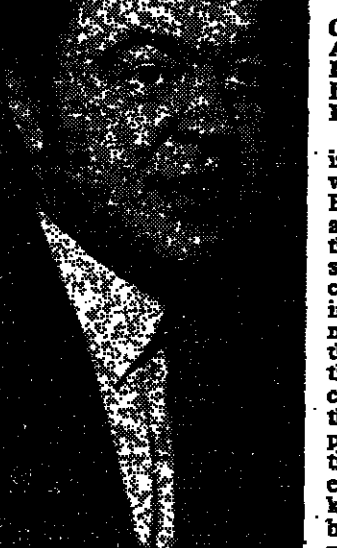
Mr Ron Harris, the Labour candidate, hopes that the changes will help to bolster a vote which in 1979 fell perilously close to the lost deposit mark. He is aware that many



Mr Freud (left): Little doubt about popularity. Mr Sproat: Openly confident of success

erstwhile Labour voters have defected to the Liberals, but is wise enough not to use that condescending "politicians" phrase about "returning to the fold" as though the electorate were really no more than sheep.

Mr Freud senses the only danger this time to be complacency by his supporters. His



main regret is that he cannot profitably back himself as he did when he first won the seat at 33 to 1.

"Last time I was still marvellous value at 6 to 1. But the best prize I can get now is to 5 to 2 on. It's not a betting proposition."

John Young

### CONSTITUENCY PROFILE

#### Roxburgh and Berwick

## Liberal hopes ride high

CANDIDATES  
A Kirkwood (L)  
I Sproat (C)  
D Briggs (Lab)  
R Shirley (SNP)

Roxburgh and Berwickshire is one of the most beautiful as well as the most marginal of British constituencies. It frames an 85-mile long wedge through the Scottish border country stretching from the towering cliffs of the Berwickshire coast in the north to the forest and moorland north of Carlisle in the south. It includes some of the finest country homes in the country, including the Hired, the seat of Lord Home, who is president of the local Conservative association. Many of the electors are employed in the knitwear and tweed industry but there is also a substantial number of farmers and fishermen.

Two thirds of the new constituency comes from David Steel's old seat of Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles and one third from the former Berwick and East Lothian constituency which was held with a slender majority for Labour at the dissolution by John Home Robertson.

The Liberals, whose candidate Archie Kirkwood, a former personal assistant to Mr Steel, has high hopes of gaining the

### Profile of Roxburgh and Berwickshire

1981 % Own Occ	32.7
1981 % Black/Ash	43.9
1981 % Mid Cl	37.7
1981 % Prof Man	15.5
1981 % Electorate	41,700
1979 BBC/ITN national result	L maj 300

Key: % Owner Occ: proportion owning their own homes; % Black/Ash: proportion of black and Asian population; % Mid Cl: proportion of non-manual workers; % Prof man: proportion of professional, managerial, and independent business; BBC/ITN national result: calculation of what result would have been in 1979 in new boundary constituencies by joint BBC/ITN study team.

seat. If the Liberals do win it, they will hold a sizeable chunk of the Anglo-Scottish border country, as the new seat is bounded to the west by Mr Steel's new Ettrick, Tweeddale and Lauderdale constituency and the east by Berwickshire.

Tomorrow: Kingswood, Foyle

Tweed, the seat of the party's chief whip Mr Alan Beith.

Mr Kirkwood, a 37-year-old solicitor in Hawick, the main town in the constituency, lives in the same village as the Liberal party leader, whom he has helped in the last three election campaigns. He is clearly hoping to pick up most of the considerable

steel vote in Roxburgh. He is campaigning hard on local issues like rural depopulation and lack of industrial development, which he blames on the present government's removal of assisted area status from the Borders Region last year.

Modestly, Mr Kirkwood says that the result of the election will be too close to call. He cites a BBC/ITN survey which predicted a majority of just 18 votes for the Conservatives and says that he is aiming to convert one Tory a day for 21 days of the campaign to be sure of getting in.

Mr Iain Sproat, the Conservative candidate, who is fighting much more on national issues, is more openly confident of success. He predicts a majority of 3,000 on the basis of local government results.

Mr Sproat, for the last 12 years MP for Aberdeen South, says that he came south to fight the new Borders seat because it is the area in which he was brought up.

The intervention of a Scottish Nationalist Party candidate, Mr Robert Shirley, a 55-year-old lecturer in finance in Edinburgh, seems unlikely to have much impact on the result.

Ian Bradley



## Foot's future ● Thatcher complacency warning ● Belgrano inquiry sought

ELECTION JUNE 83

## Foot reluctant to dispel doubt over future as leader

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Belief that Mr Michael Foot may not long remain as leader of the Labour Party, whether he wins or loses the election next week, was encouraged yesterday by his unwillingness to dispose of the question.

For 24 hours, from late on Tuesday night, he was asked at intervals if he would deny whether he planned to resign, although both he and his wife, Jill Craigie, emphatically denied the reports, which the suggestion was based.

The first of these was in the *Evening Post*, of Reading, on Tuesday. It reported Mrs Foot as saying: "Even if the party wins, I should not think that he would stay on for long, because it would be time to make way for a younger man."

Late editions of the *Daily Mirror*, which supports the Labour Party, used this as the basis of a front page story, with its boldest headlines of the campaign: "Foot: Sensation: Will He or Won't He Resign?"

Before changing its front page, which at first carried a report about the Derby, the *Mirror* twice talked to Mr Foot. It also talked to Mrs Foot and carried her angry statement that the *Post's* report was "absolute nonsense". Mrs Foot said, and repeated yesterday, that she had never said any of the things attributed to her.

Mr Foot, after talking to his wife by telephone, said the report was "based on a considerable misapprehension of what my wife said". But when the *Mirror* invited him to deny

that he would quit, win or lose, he would only say: "I am sorry, I can not say any more."

At the Labour campaign press conference yesterday Mr Foot again said there was "considerable misapprehension" about his wife's remarks but there was "nothing in the story, nothing in it at all."

Later, when repeatedly asked at Wexham Garden City if he would consider stepping down, he refused to answer.

Mr Peter Hiley, editor of the *Evening Post*, said there was no doubt that Mrs Foot made the remarks attributed to her by the reporter, Mr Kevin Connolly, who took a full shorthand note at his interview.

Mrs Foot said in Bristol yesterday that she and her husband had not discussed the leadership. She had no idea if he would stand down.

Senior figures in the Labour Party were yesterday puzzled by Mr Foot's reticence, and also asked themselves whether the *Daily Mirror* intended to damage him.

On May 11 the paper recalled in a page one comment that it had supported Labour at every election since 1945, and did so still. But it entered grave reservations about Labour's policies under Mr Foot's leadership.

Mr Peter Thompson, deputy editor of the *Daily Mirror*, said yesterday that their story was judged purely on news value. "I would hope that our readers would like us to carry the best stories of the day, and in our opinion this was the best story."

## Kinnock demands Belgrano inquiry

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday accused Mr Neil Kinnock, a member of Labour's Shadow Cabinet, of playing "the dictator's game" by calling for a full and impartial investigation into the sinking of the General Belgrano.

Mr Kinnock yesterday raised the suspicion that Mrs Thatcher and her war cabinet had decided to sink the Argentine cruiser in order to destroy a Peruvian peace initiative in the early stage of the Falklands conflict.

He is the first Labour front-bench to lend his support to this view. He said his doubts about the sinking had been aroused by anomalies in government explanations.

The Belgrano was torpedoed by the submarine HMS Conqueror at 2.57pm local time on Sunday, May 2, with the loss of 368 lives. As reported in *The Times* on December 8, the cruiser had been sunk well south of the total exclusion zone, while on a course for her home port of Ushuaia.

It had also been revealed in Commons replies that the cruiser and her escorts had changed course many times

during the day and were 200 miles from elements of the Task Force, and that it would have taken five to six hours to reach striking distance.

But in a Commons statement on May 4, two days after the incident, Mr John Nott, then Secretary of State for Defence, told MPs that the Argentine ships were "closing on elements of our task force", which were "only hours away".

It has since emerged that the Conqueror had been shadowing the Belgrano and the two destroyers for more than 30 hours.

Mr Kinnock demanded yesterday: "Why did the war cabinet refrain from ordering the Conqueror to attack the Belgrano for over 30 hours and then give the order when the cruiser was on course for its home port?"

"The most feasible answer appears to be that the British Government sought when peace was still at least possible, a peace which would have involved complete Argentine withdrawal followed by a negotiated political settlement."

He added: "The case for an immediate enquiry is paramount."



The Belgrano goes down - taking a hope of peace with her, the Government's critics claim.



Tory view: Sir Keith Joseph, Dr Rhodes Boyson and Mr Cecil Parkinson answering journalists' questions yesterday. (Photographs: Chris Harris).

## The 17-hour poll show on ITN

By Kenneth Gosling

The independent television network is to spend £1.25m on its election night coverage, starting with a snap poll of voters to predict the result and going on with live transmissions for 17 hours and 40 minutes.

"This is our longest ever single broadcast", Mr David Nicholas, editor and chief executive of Independent Television News, said yesterday.

"Our coverage will be informed but informal, we are setting out to have the street party to be at on the night."

It will be Alastair Burnet's seventh general election on television. He will be the anchorman throughout the transmissions, helped by Peter Sissons and Martyn Lewis.

Lightweight electronic newsgathering (ENG) equipment will be used extensively. ITN will also call on the services of a satellite 23,000 miles above Gabon in central Africa to beam back to London pictures from Mr David Steel's home at Ettrickbridge and from Caithness on June 10.

The satellite was booked for June 9 last January, and was among several Thursday dates reserved by ITN.

## Healey: Civil order in danger

From John Winder, Stafford

Law and order in Britain could break down if unemployment went on increasing, Mr Denis Healey, deputy leader of the Labour Party, said in Stafford yesterday. Speaking during a tour of the Midlands, he was enlarging on his words at the end of a late meeting on Tuesday night when he foresaw the possibility of anarchy and bloodshed resulting from the division of the nation by Mrs Thatcher's policies.

Asked by *The Times* at a press conference yesterday how Conservative policies would divide the nation, Mr Healey said: "This will assume increasing importance during the last week of the election."

"I think Mrs Thatcher's appeal has always been to the baser emotions like fear and greed, but I think that what people are beginning to recognize is that governments which pursue such policies are deeply divisive."

Britain was already divided between North and South in a manner it had not been since Mrs Gaskell was writing her novels in the last century. The gulch between rich and poor and black and white were being widened as the Government

## Labour slide

Despite an unemployment rate of 17 per cent, Conservatives have edged into a four per cent lead in the key marginal seat of West Bromwich East in the heartland of the West Midlands, according to a Marplan poll published in the *Birmingham Evening Mail* yesterday. It was Mr Peter Snape (Labour) had a majority of 1,971 in 1979.

The poll, taken between the weekend, showed that Labour's support has dropped from 47 per cent to 39 per cent. Conservative support was up from 42.2 per cent to 43 per cent, with the Alliance share rising from 7.9 per cent to 18 per cent.

attempted to return to the values of the Victorian poorhouse. That was repulsive to the British public. No nation could solve its problems without unity.

If unemployment continued to rise - and Mrs Thatcher did not deny that it would - it would put strains on the whole social fabric. "We could see the breakdown of law and order."

With seven full days to go

## Thatcher warning on SDP vote

From Philip Webster, Political Reporter, Bolton

The Prime Minister yesterday continued to use the upswing in support for the Liberal/SDP Alliance to warn her own supporters against complacency.

During a day of campaigning in Scotland and the North-west, Mrs Thatcher repeated her fear first voiced at the Tory rally in Edinburgh on Monday night, that if people vote for the Alliance in sufficient numbers, a Labour government could be elected.

Her message yesterday was that voters should remember the election of February 1974, when a high Liberal vote was seen as the main reason for Labour's victory.

Inside the Thatcher camp there is no alarm yet at the seeming improvement in Alliance fortunes. The party's private polls have for several days placed the Alliance at the improved level which the public polls had indicated.

Some of the Prime Minister's advisers feel that so long as the improvement is containable, it will serve to maintain the momentum of the Tory campaign, which might otherwise have flagged because of its large lead, up to and over the final crucial weekend.

Since the campaign began, complacency has been seen by Tory strategists as the biggest obstacle to a convincing victory.

Mrs Thatcher told reporters in Elgin, Grampian, yesterday that if people did not want a Labour government elected on its extreme manifesto, the only sure way to ensure that was to vote for a Conservative candidate.

"Unless enough people vote positively Conservative for Conservative candidates, then the danger could be you would get a Labour government returned," she said.

Mrs Thatcher faced noisy demonstrations yesterday as she visited a bakery in Bolton, where eggs were thrown, and missed their target, and the Unicorn Brewery in Stockport, where a cordon of police battled to hold back the crowd as she left her car.

## Compare the records, says Callaghan

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Mr James Callaghan, the former Labour Prime Minister, last night invited doubting voters to compare the record of his administration to that of Mrs Thatcher's.

Speaking in his Cardiff South and Penarth constituency Mr Callaghan said: "In the last 18 months that I was Prime Minister unemployment was going down steadily and inflation was held at a reasonable level. Production was going up so we could finance imports and discuss how to use money that would come in from North Sea oil."

Mr Callaghan, who last week rocked the Labour Party with his insistence that Britain should not disarm unilaterally, said that under Mrs Thatcher the oil money had vanished. "Inflation has come down from the heights to which she raised it but with unemployment going up from 1m towards 4m I say the price is too high."

## Thatcher callous about jobless, Foot says

From David Felton, Stevenage

Mr Michael Foot last night accused the Prime Minister of being callous and insensitive in her television appearance earlier this week when she disputed Labour's figures of the cost to the country of unemployment.

He said it had been the "biggest revelation" of the election that Mrs Thatcher did not know the cost of the unemployment she had created. The Prime Minister has said on the BBC television *Panorama* programme on Tuesday that the actual cost of unemployment was £5,500m a year.

She accused Labour of using "false, phoney and distorted" figures, according to Mr Foot. But, he told party workers in Stevenage, the cost he and his colleagues had been using in the election campaign had been given to the House of Commons by the Treasury.

Mr Foot said the actual cost of unemployment was £15,000m a year, rising to £17,000m a year. "The situation

and the Prime Minister does not know how much her own Chancellor has told the House of Commons it cost the country. Has he been afraid to tell her?"

"It seems she is not merely callous about the figures, and she is not merely twisting them in the Tebbit style. She is actually unaware of how huge the real burden is. Mass unemployment costs three times as much as the Prime Minister says it does."

Mr Foot said that £17,000m a year was being spent to keep 3,500,000 people on the dole. £10,000m a year of investment was going abroad instead of being used in Britain and £20,000m of North Sea oil revenues was being squandered.

The Labour leader spent the day in the Home Counties stands to suffer if any one part becomes dominated by terrorists or their fellow travellers.

He told the diocesan synod that terrorists posed a threat to everyone. "Let there be no doubt, the entire community stands to suffer if any one part becomes dominated by terrorists or their fellow travellers."

"Whether they realize it or not, the Protestant community throughout the province has as much to lose as their Roman Catholic neighbours if paramilitary organizations or their fellow travellers win the battle for the hearts and minds of west Belfast."

## Stark election choice in Ulster, bishop says

From Richard Ford, Belfast

The electorate in Northern Ireland faces a stark choice between dialogue and confrontation when it votes on polling day, Dr Robin Eames, the Church of Ireland Bishop of Down and Dromore, said yesterday.

He praised recent critical statements against republican paramilitaries by Dr Cahill Daly, the Roman Catholic bishop, and said that the province stands to suffer if any one part becomes dominated by terrorists or their fellow travellers.

"Whether they realize it or not, the Protestant community throughout the province has as much to lose as their Roman Catholic neighbours if paramilitary organizations or their fellow travellers win the battle for the hearts and minds of west Belfast."

## SDP man to rejoin Labour

By Barbara Day

Mr Michael Barnes, Labour MP for Brentford and Chiswick between 1966 and 1974 and a founder member of the Social Democratic Party, has resigned from the SDP and applied to rejoin his local party in Kensington.

"I am afraid the SDP was a mistake. I should have stayed with the Labour Party. I am disillusioned with the way the SDP has worked out," he said yesterday.

Britain should choose the right moment to make a "generous gesture" to get the process of nuclear disarmament moving, the Bishop of Bradford, the Rt Rev Geoffrey Paul, has suggested in an election manifesto for this diocese.

The Bishop recognized that arguably, the balance of terror had helped to prevent a nuclear war in Europe for nearly 40 years. But the real business lay in scaling down the arsenals built up by East and West.

He told the diocesan synod that terrorists posed a threat to everyone. "Let there be no doubt, the entire community stands to suffer if any one part becomes dominated by terrorists or their fellow travellers."

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## Varley awards 'world unemployment cup'

## BROADCASTING

(All on BBC Radio 2, Jimmy Young Show)

Mr Shirley Williams, President of the SDP: "We have got to persuade people that all the sacrifice - the rise in unemployment, the massive bankruptcies among small businesses and so on - on the part of the Government have been for nothing. We are not leaner, we are not fitter, we are not more competitive after four years of suffering. The suffering might have been worth it if we had been building our future. But we have not built our future" (*BBC Radio 4, The World at One*).

Mr Gordon Wilson, Chairman of the Scottish National Party: "This election is now perfectly clear. Mrs Thatcher will, at best, have a huge runaway victory and, at least, a victory with a small majority. In those circumstances, Scotland is going to be left without any representation."

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We have had a majority of MPs who do not represent the Conservative cause. That is why a vote for the SNP is protection for the people in Scotland. We have got to take out insurance."

Mr Dafydd Wigley, President of Plaid Cymru, on EEC withdrawal: "Pulling out now without any alternative would not be beneficial to the Welsh economy. We feel we cannot turn the clock back ten years to the 1973 position when we went in. The trading relationships that Britain had with countries like New Zealand have changed since then."

"Many of the manufacturing industries in Wales are geared to the EEC. We want to see a better regional policy. We want to see a broadening out to bring in others such as the Scandinavian countries. But we do not feel that pulling out, full stop, is the answer in the present circumstances." (*Both on BBC, Election Call*).

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, on railways:

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## Geoffrey Smith



## COMMENT

On Tuesday evening I went to hear Mr Tony Benn speak in a crowded school room to an audience of nearly 200 in his new constituency, Bristol, East. His old constituency of Bristol, South-east, which he had represented for more than thirty years, interrupted only during his successful campaign to get rid of his inherited peerage, was abolished by the Boundaries Commission.

So Mr Benn is now having to fight his political life to a decidedly marginal seat. Whether he survives will be of less than personal significance for British politics.

If he is defeated, he would not be able to serve in the next Government if Labour wins, and he would almost certainly not be back in Parliament in time to stand for the leadership of Labour. That would end the right-wing of his party well enough. Paradoxically, a number of Conservatives would prefer him to be in the next house.

## Some Tories want Benn to survive

They do not want the electorate to shoot their fox. A Tony Benn who looked poised to take over the Labour Party would be a much more frightening bogey to the voters than a Tony Benn who was writing his memoirs or trailing round the country looking for a new constituency.

But there are non-partisan reasons why someone who does not share Mr Benn's political views might nonetheless regard it as a pity if he is not in the next House of Commons.

Hearing him on Tuesday, it was easy to appreciate many of the reasons why he is regarded as such a potent political force on both sides of the political divide.

Some of the weaknesses were only too evident. He gave no indication that the policies he was offering would have to be paid for, and might be expensive. There was a pervasive lack of realism. His sense of paranoia, especially against the press was fully on display. To these failings must be added the evidence of many left-wing Labour MPs who mistrust him deeply.

But Mr Benn would not arouse the least admiration in me if he does if he did not possess notable political talents. He is an extremely powerful debater. He presented his audience on Tuesday with a reasoned argument. It may have been disfigured, as I believe, in a number of respects; but he was nonetheless seeking to persuade his listeners, not to rant at them.

Only during one short passage did he raise his voice to a shout. He spoke with wit, even a sense of fun, and he spoke with dignity. Not once did he appeal explicitly to his audience to help him save his own political skin in what must be a critical fight. His argument was dictated to the prospect, even the vision, offered by the party.

## Boyish sense of enthusiasm

At the end of the meeting quite a number of the audience crowded around him, to his evident delight. These of a critical disposition might refer to the fanatical gleam in his eyes. I believe that those surrounding him were responding to his almost boyish sense of enthusiasm. People leaving a Tony Benn meeting do not wonder why they came.

If he were not in the next House of Commons, the far left would be leaderless. Before one rejoices too loudly at that prospect, one should remember that throughout the history of the Labour movement there has been a tension between those who have wanted to seek power by parliamentary means and those who have wanted to do so by industrial action. It might be damaging in the long run if the far left felt that their cause could not be put potently in Parliament.

There is another broader consideration. Like him or not, Mr Benn is one of the major British political figures of our time, and Parliament is the place where the major political figures should ideally be heard. If Mr Benn is not in the next House of Commons, it would be to that extent suffer as an institution.

## Liberal choice

Mr Jo Grimond, the former Liberal leader, yesterday urged people not to vote for a Liberal candidate. Speaking in Broadgreen, Liverpool, Mr Grimond reaffirmed the national Liberal Party line that Alliance supporters there should vote for the official Alliance candidate.

TABLE OF POLLS							
How opinion polls have reflected party fortunes since March							
Field Work Dates	Poll	Sample Size	C	Lab	Alliance	Others	C lead
March			%	%	%	%	%
17-21	Gallup (Daily Telegraph)	894	39.5	28.5	29	3	10.5
21-23	Marplan (Guardian)	1,217	42	28.5	28	1.5	13.5
17-23	MORI (Daily Express)	1,878	43	28	28	1	15
24-29	NOP	1,864	44	34	20	2	10
April							
6-11	Gallup (Daily Telegraph)	897	40.5	35	22.5	2	5.5
7-12	MORI (Standard)	1,825	43	34	22	1	9
7-12	NOP (Birmingham Post)	1,949	47	30	22	1	17
11-13	Marplan (Guardian)	1,506	43	32	23	2	11
13-19	NOP (Birmingham Post)	1,800	46	32.5	19.5	2	13.5
17-23	MORI (Daily Star)	1,781	46	33	20	1	13
21-25	MORI (Sunday Times)	1,216	45	30	23	2	15
25-27	Marplan (People & Power)	1,447	43.5	31	24	1.5	12.5
May							
4-9	Gallup (Daily Telegraph)	871	49	31.5	17.5	2	17.5
5-6	Harris (Observer)	1,053	46	38	15	1	8
6	NOP (Mail On Sunday)	1,058	47	34	18	1	13
6	MORI (Panorama)	1,080	45	34	20	1	11
10	MORI (Star)	1,047	46	31	21	2	15
11	Harris (Times TV)	1,048	52	31	17	0	21
5-11	MORI (Standard)	1,624	46	32	22	0	14
9-11	Marplan (Guardian)	1,457	46	34	19	1	12
12	MORI (Express)	984	49	34	15	2	15
16	MORI (Star)	1,080	44	37	17	2	7
16	Audience Selection (TV AM - phone)	1,154	46	31	21	2	15
11-16	Gallup (Daily Telegraph)	946	46	33	19	2	13
16-17	NOP (Mail)	1,584	49	31	19	1	18
17	Audience Selection (The Sun - phone)	507	44	33	21	2	11
18	Harris (Times TV)	1,053	45	35	17	3	10
17-18	MORI (S Times)	980	47	30	21	2	17
18	MORI (Express)	1,100	46	37	16	1	8
19-20	Harris (Observer)	1,082	45	36	18	1	9
20	Marplan (S Mirror)	1,250	47	34	18	1	13
23	MORI (Star)	1,068	51	33	15	1	18
23	Audience Selection (TV AM - phone)	1,071	45	32	20	3	13
20-23	Gallup (Daily Telegraph)	1,700	48	33	18	1	15
24	Audience Selection (The Sun - phone)	557	45	32	21	2	13
23-24	NOP (Mail)	1,104	52	33	14	1	19
General election - May 1979			45	38	14.0	3	7







## Mozambique claims that South Africa sent in pilotless spyplane

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The Mozambique authorities claim that the mystery aircraft which was shot down over Maputo and crashed into the sea on Monday was a pilotless, remote-controlled reconnaissance machine.

A spokesman for the South Africa Air Force (SAAF), Colonel Julius Kriel, said yesterday, however, that the "drone" aircraft did not belong to the SAAF, and repeated an earlier denial that any SAAF aircraft had entered Mozambique airspace on Monday.

The pretoria headquarters of the South African Defence Force (SADF), which embraces the Army, Navy and Air Force, was unable to comment on suggestions that the spyplane could have been sent on its mission by army intelligence.

Military analysts here say that Mozambique descriptions

of the aircraft suggest that it closely resembles the remote-controlled mini-aircraft used extensively by the Israelis on spying missions over Lebanon. South Africa has close relations with Israel, and has imported or adapted various items of Israeli military technology. According to Mozambique, wreckage retrieved from Maputo Bay showed that the propeller-driven aircraft was equipped with optical instruments including a camera with a zoom lens of French manufacture. Inspection by local reporters disclosed the marking "2011" on the fuselage and the instruction "No hand hold" written in English.

Mozambique says the aircraft was monitored in flight from Moamba, about 30 miles north-west of Maputo, close to the border with Transvaal, to

the Maputo suburbs of Machava and Catembe. An artillery unit opened fire only after the aircraft had repeatedly refused to identify itself to Maputo airport ground control.

Mozambique also claims that a second aircraft, following about eight miles behind the "drone", turned south and fled back to South Africa when the anti-aircraft battery opened up. It was suggested in Maputo yesterday that this aircraft could have been controlling the "drone".

If the aircraft was from South Africa, a possible explanation is that it was seeking to obtain photographic evidence to support South Africa's claim to have destroyed camps and bases of the underground African National Congress (ANC) in and near the Maputo suburb of Matola in an air raid on May 23.

The raid was launched in retaliation for the car bomb explosion three days earlier outside Air Force headquarters in Pretoria, which has now claimed the lives of 19 people and injured, more than 200 others.

Seven of the dead, and many of the injured, were members of the armed forces, but most were civilians, both black and white. The ANC claimed responsibility for the attack.

interest of international peace and security.

The debate, at first restricted, must now only be a source of encouragement to the United States, which has been promoting rapprochement in southern Africa. The recent violence in the region has only reinforced the need to abate tensions as Mozambique and South Africa prepared for further bilateral talks (as did Lesotho and Swaziland) on curbing the African National Congress guerrillas.

It was certain that Mr Nujoma's pledge to maintain the liberation struggle would be met with trepidation by Angola which already has South African troops in the southern parts of its territory.

The threat of sanctions, usually a favourite diplomatic tool of the Africans, was abandoned in place of a draft resolution emphasizing negotiating as the path to Namibian independence.

Somewhat dismayed by the fruitless results of the five-power Western Contact Group (the United States, Britain, Canada, France and West Germany) in finding a solution, the Africans have decided to give Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the Secretary General, a more forceful role to play.

The resolution mandates him to consult the parties on a proposed ceasefire to secure the speedy implementation of the 178 council resolution setting out Namibia's transition to independence under United Nations supervision.

## 8,463 given amnesty in Kenya

From Charles Harrison Nairobi

President Daniel arap Moi yesterday freed 8,463 prisoners - including 22 detainees, mostly members of the Kenya Air Force held after an abortive coup attempt last August - to mark the twentieth anniversary of the day in 1963 when Kenya achieved internal self-government in preparation for independence.

He announced his amnesty after watching a march-past by the Kenyan armed forces, and a fly-past by jet fighters.

Most of those released are short-term prisoners. Officials could give no details of the detainees now being freed, and it was not known whether they included any of the 12 detainees, including several university lecturers, whose names had previously been made known.

## Canberra urged to seek drug man's extradition

From Tony Deboudin, Melbourne

The royal commission into drug trafficking has recommended to the Australian Government that it should consider asking the British Government to allow the temporary extradition of the "Mr Asia" drug syndicate who is serving life imprisonment in Britain for murder, so that he can stand trial in Australia.

He was convicted in Britain of the murder of a former drug ring associate, Christopher Martin Johnston.

The report of the royal commission, headed by Mr Justice Stewart, was released on Tuesday by the Australian and New Zealand governments. It contains 900 pages.

The commission says that the Mr Asia drug syndicate was the biggest in Australia at the time and that Clark had control of an empire worth up to \$A96m (about £56m). It found that he had murdered a number of people in New South Wales.

The commission found that Clark and his associates illegally distributed large quantities of heroin in Australia, using mostly female couriers. He and his couriers used Australian

## Evren threat to delay Turkish poll

Ankara (Reuters) - President Kenan Evren said yesterday that the Turkish general election set for November 6 could be postponed "if it is deemed necessary".

He defended Tuesday's decree by the military government ordering the detention of 16 politicians and the dissolution of a new political party, one of five formed since a ban on political activity was lifted in April. Harsher measures would be taken if necessary, he told a large crowd in the central Turkish city of Conium.

General Evren attacked banned politicians who, he said, were scheming to gain a stake in new political parties.

He said the newly-formed rightist Grand Turkey Party which was suppressed on Tuesday, was founded by people who would not accept being pushed from the seat of power.



Last tribute: Family mourners follow the gun carriage bearing Pelshe's ashes

## Chernenko appears at Pelshe funeral

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Mr Konstantin Chernenko, Mr Yuri Andropov's one-time rival for the party leadership, appeared in public yesterday for the funeral of Mr Arvid Pelshe in Red Square, but looked unwell compared to Mr Andropov.

A Central Committee plenum is to be held in two weeks, and some personnel changes are expected. Both Mr Chernenko and Mr Andropov have had bouts of illness in recent months. Mr Chernenko, who is 71, dropped out of public life for two months but reappeared

to attend Mr Pelshe's lying in state at the Hall of Columns in Moscow on Tuesday.

Mr Andropov, who is 68, appeared much fitter than usual as he walked to the top of the Lenin mausoleum for the funeral speeches. He will be 69 on June 15, which falls between the Central committee plenum and the Supreme Soviet session on June 16, which is expected to resolve the question of the vacant presidency.

Mr Pelshe, who died last Sunday at the age of 84, was

the Lithuanian's oldest member. An urn containing his ashes was placed in the Kremlin wall, the traditional resting place of senior Soviet figures. As usual on such occasions, the centre of Moscow was sealed off by the police, and selected mourners were transported in buses.

Speeches praised Mr Pelshe's role in the Bolshevik revolution of 1917 and in his native Latvia after the Second World War, where he was Communist Party leader after the Soviet annexation of the Baltic states.

## Nazis blew up church with people inside

Berlin (Reuters) - The only woman to survive a Nazi massacre in a French village told yesterday how SS troops herded women and children into a local church and then blasted the building with explosives.

The written evidence of Mme Marguerite Rouffanche, who was age 47 at the time was read out at the East Berlin trial of Herr Heinz Barth, a former SS officer who has admitted taking part in the killing of 642 people at the village of Oradour-sur-Glane in June 1944.

Mme Rouffanche spoke of heart-rending screams from the women and children as they were separated from their menfolk and forced into the church.

After surviving the blast, she said: "I fled to the sacristy, then they fired through the sacristy windows. I pretended to be dead. The Germans appeared in the sacristy and fired and I was lucky not to be hit."

The troops later set fire to the church and she fled through a window by the altar. In escaping she was hit by machine gun fire and she still cannot use her right arm and right leg. Two daughters and a grandson who were with her in the church were killed.

M Jean-Pierre Elssesser, who was then aged 18, said he saw the explosion at the church and that as the soldiers set fire to it, screams were coming from inside.

## US to pay more for Philippines bases

From David Watts Singapore

The United States will retain its military bases in the Philippines under a new agreement signed yesterday which almost doubles the amount Washington pays for the facilities.

The new agreement, covering Clark Air Base and Subic Bay Naval Base, will cost the United States \$900m (£562m) in grants and loans for the five years from October 1984 compared to the present figure of \$500m.

For the first time, some of the money will be used to alleviate the undesirable social costs of the bases, the biggest US military installations outside the continental United States.

The financial terms of the pact are also more favourable to Manila than the 1979 agreement. The US has also promised consultations before nuclear weapons are deployed.

Formal discussions were only expected to open yesterday and it appears that the view of Mr José Diokno, an opposition lawyer, that the talks were kept quiet to forestall public debate is correct.

Critics of the agreement say that far from guaranteeing the security of the Philippines, all it guarantees is that the republic will be a prime target for the Soviet Union's SS20 missiles aimed at what are important strategic bases of world-wide importance for the US.

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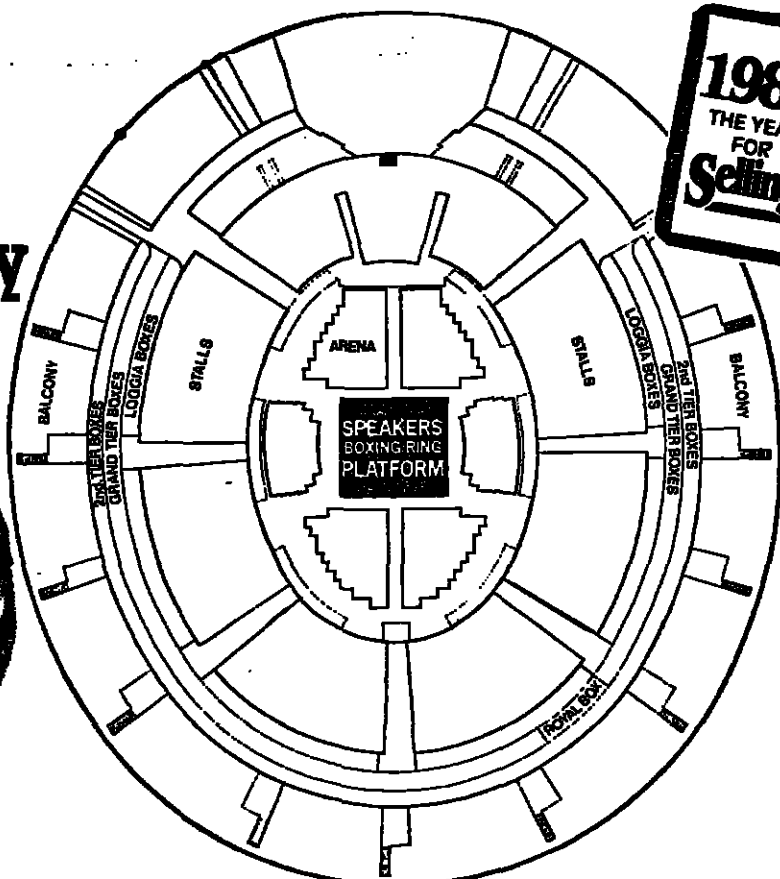
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## Jaruzelski pays hardline price for party unity

With left stage management, General Jaruzelski appears to have succeeded in his bid to hold on to the leadership of the Polish Communist Party. In a move that has been described as a "hardline price" for party unity, Jaruzelski has agreed to a new constitution for the party, which will allow for a more open and democratic process of decision-making. This move is seen as a significant step towards reforming the party and its relationship with the public.

But the price Jaruzelski has paid is not without its costs. He has had to concede to a new constitution that will allow for a more open and democratic process of decision-making. This move is seen as a significant step towards reforming the party and its relationship with the public. The main ideological discussion will come now only after the papal visit in June and after a meeting of the Soviet Central Committee scheduled for roughly the same period.

## 'Socialist workers' town' pinning its hopes on the Pope



The idea of Nowa Huta, a completely new town built around the site of the former Lenin, as a 'Socialist workers' town' was a dream of the Polish government. The town was built from scratch, with the aim of creating a new urban working class of Poland. The Pope's visit to the town is seen as a significant moment in its history, as it represents a new chapter in the town's development. The town's future is now pinned on the Pope's visit, as it is seen as a chance to showcase the town's achievements and to gain international recognition.

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## Bonn partners try to end squabbling

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

Leaders of the three West German coalition parties met yesterday in the first of what is planned as regular consultations to coordinate policy and settle differences behind the scenes. The meeting came at a time when squabbling between the parties threatens to undermine the credibility of Dr Helmut Kohl's Government, which has been the subject of angry reproaches at last week's Christian Democratic Party conference.

The Chancellor had talks with Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister and leader of the Free Democrats, and Herr Franz Josef Strauss, the Prime Minister of Bavaria and leader of the Christian Social Union. In the past few days another dispute has broken out between Herr Genscher and Herr Strauss, who have been at odds over the recent visit of the Romanian President to Bonn. Herr Genscher has been accused of being too soft on the Romanians, while Herr Strauss has been accused of being too hard.

It is clear that the coalition partners are in a state of tension, and that the Chancellor's Government is under pressure to end the squabbling. The meeting yesterday was a first step towards this end, and it is hoped that it will lead to a more unified and effective Government.

appeared to be doing as an independent foreign minister.

Herr Genscher let it be known that he was not known as a negotiator of the return of the South Korean President.

Seoul (Reuters) - Thirty-nine former opposition politicians said yesterday they would form a united front to demand the return of the South Korean President.

They are closely following the development of the incident. Western travellers last week quoted Chinese residents of Mongolia as saying about 8,000 of them faced expulsion because they had refused to move from the capital, Ulan Bator, into remote parts of the country.

The travellers quoted the Chinese as saying the ultimatum was delivered in March and they would all have left by August. More than 100 Chinese joined the Trans-Siberian express in Ulan Bator and most of their possessions were confiscated by Mongolian officials at the Chinese border, the travellers said.

East European sources quoted Mongolian officials as saying Mongolians were also being encouraged to settle outside Ulan Bator.

## Sihanouk threat to quit

Peking (AFP) - Prince Norodom Sihanouk threatened yesterday to quit the anti-Vietnamese Cambodian coalition he has headed for a year after a new dispute with his non-communist resistance partner, Mr Son Sann. In an interview with several foreign journalists here, the 60-year-old coalition president reacted bitterly to Mr Sann's recent remarks in Australia criticizing him and the third coalition partner. "I plan to quit the coalition. I am going to watch what Son Sann and his followers are going to do," he said. "If it appears that they are continuing to attack me, then in a few weeks or months I will resign." But Prince Sihanouk added that he did not want to give a diplomatic advantage to Vietnam and its Soviet backers.



## THE ARTS

"Coming to London always makes me feel like a Jew who has finally got to Israel": thus A. R. Gurney Jr, the American dramatist whose *The Dining Room* opens at Greenwich next Thursday, and perhaps we had better start with a declaration of considerable interest though not, I hasten to add, mine alone. When *The Dining Room* first opened off-Broadway just over a year ago, Irving Wardle in these columns called it "something remarkable" and we both expressed in print the fervent hope that it would be seen over here before too long. The Greenwich director who has now realized that hope, Alan Strachan, also has a considerable interest in Gurney going back over 10 years to when, at the Mermade, he first staged a play of his called *Children* with Constance Cummings, who a couple of years ago also appeared at Greenwich in yet another Gurney play called *The Golden Age*.

Yet despite that chain of Gurney productions in this country over the last decade, he remains curiously unknown as a dramatist, an experience he has become somewhat acclimatized to also in his native America where it is only in the last 12 months that he has become truly established as a successful playwright. He now has two plays running simultaneously off-Broadway and productions of *The Dining Room* running also in 20 other American cities.

As both a writer and an American, Gurney is the utter personification of WASP, the somehow untranslatable White Anglo-Saxon Protestant tradition which

At 52 A. R. Gurney Jr. has only just become an established and successful playwright in his native America. His play *The Dining Room* opens in London

Interview by Sheridan Morley

## A WASP finds his sting

once provided America with its ruling classes.

In his lifetime, as he is the first to remark, WASP power has all but disappeared even on Wall Street and within the Ivy Halls of East Coast colleges. Reagan's America is an America of Californian power and money, and the WASP are now personified most often as the shady lawyers or doctors in American television crime series.

Like Chekhov therefore (and it is an analogy I promise to push no further, strong though I happen to think it is) Gurney writes from within of a society already in decline. His plays are elegant, well-made laments for a lost world of wealth and manners and Eastern-seaboard living, and *The Dining Room* itself stands as a symbol for the collapse of the family life that he locates within its walls.

Where Philip Barry and S. N. Behrman, perhaps Gurney's most direct antecedents in the American theatre of the 1930s, wrote in plays like *Philadelphia Story* of ambitious outsiders trying to break into the old American families, Gurney writes about younger members of those very families trying to break out into the real world, a world that he

himself reserves the right to dislike.

"My father was in real estate in Buffalo, we always considered ourselves East Coast, even though West of the Hudson, and there was a strong theatre tradition in the town, because Katharine Cornell had come from there and grandmother always took us to her first nights. Then the Korean War came, and after three years in the navy I used my GI Bill of Rights money to pay my way through the Yale School of Drama, since my family deeply disapproved of my having anything to do with the theatre.

"But I always knew it was what I loved: I'd been at Williams College with Steve Sondheim and I started writing musicals there and by the time I left Yale I'd completed a musical called *Lyle in Buffalo*, done a version of *Tom Sawyer* with songs, published two plays, sold another for television and was at 26 totally and utterly written out.

"So I decided to become a teacher, which is how I have been earning my living ever since: first I taught Latin in a county day school, and then somebody offered me a professorship in English at the Massachusetts Institute of Tech-

nology where I have been these last 20 years. The wonderful thing about that was unlike the day school I didn't have to supervise lunch or take games, so I had a whole lot of spare time and I was able to start writing again.

Lately more and more of my time has been spent writing plays, and less and less of it teaching, but luckily MIT is full of scientists who keep flying off to world conferences, so in all fairness they have to give me equal time off.

"I've been very lucky in that lately there does seem to have been a faint swing back towards the well-made play, though a lot of critics still hate my work. They seem to think that because I write about old-fashioned families, in decay, I must somehow also approve of them which doesn't follow at all: they just happen to be what I know about, and in that sense *The Dining Room* is I suppose an autobiography.

"But it's about a lot of other families in that Boston area as well: people forget that just because most Americans are still striving to be upwardly mobile doesn't mean you don't also find a few older ones who are downwardly mobile. In New York they think I must be English,

even though I'd never been here until 1974.

"Yet I've always felt extremely at home here: the English obsession with manners and behaviour, their fascination with the past and deep intolerance of children all remind me so much of my own family. But WASPs are still pretty much hated by most Americans, and when I wrote *The Dining Room* even my work was ridiculed, thought to be a New York production in the end I took it myself to playwrights Horowitz and they agreed to give it a one-night reading, and so their arrangement a lot of actors seemed to want to be in it.

"I'm not at all sure what will happen to *The Dining Room* over here: Strachan has a marvellous cast at Greenwich, but I have a feeling that what the English most like about American drama are the cops and robbers.

"I don't write about rebels or dissenters or gangsters; I write about my own people, the Americans you see haunting Harrods in midsummer, the Americans who call themselves Anglos now, because WASP has become such a pejorative term.

With the look of the genial American college professor that he of course is, and a daughter so anglophile she even works in New York for the National Westminster Bank, Gurney may not be everyone's idea of the typical modern Broadway dramatist, but I believe that he is most elegant and accomplished theatrical writer to have come out of America since the war.

Theatre  
Upstaged by the FoolKing Lear  
Barbican

From the notices of Adrian Noble's production on its first appearance at Stratford last year, it appeared that the Fool occupies as big a place in *King Lear* as does Iago in *Othello*.

No doubt, the Barbican public will receive the same impression. If you dress the Fool in a Groucho costume, complete with violin case, and plunge him anachronistically into a fairy tale court to perform routines from the old Edgewood Road M.C., it is not surprising that he sticks in the memory at the expense of the more immediately Shakespearean elements. If, moreover, he is played by a comic actor as dazzling as Anthony Sher, who can do everything from George Formby keelele numbers to playing a ventriloquist's doll, and underscore the fun with spine-chilling intimations of catastrophe, then it is quite difficult to attend to anything else on the stage.

However, the production's dedication to comic routines does not end in this one attention-grabbing piece of casting. It also crops up among the other characters. Kent (Malcolm Storry) picks a quarrel with Chris Hunter's Oswald and heaps the insults on him in loving slow motion, while the victim stands there smothered in verbal cream puffs. Lear meets the blind Gloucester and engages him in cross-talk on the subject of his recent affliction, until the two of them are rocking with helpless mirth.

This, I hasten to say, is a scene to make you weep, as is



Dazzling Anthony Sher

the mock-trial of Goneril in the hovel, with the avalanche of deranged evidence converging on the empty chair in which Gloucester is shortly to be suffering the vengeance of Regan's hair-pin. For the Fool scenes themselves, Bob Crowley's stage becomes a bare music-hall platform, with Michael Gambon's Lear playing a fumbling straight-man to the red-nosed pro from whom he is delighted to learn comic techniques however deaf he may be to the message they carry. And, as in the old theatres, there is a fleet spot to project their huge misshapen shadows on the back wall. Marvellous.

Where clowning can illuminate the tragedy, the production excels. But I think Mr Noble has miscalculated in taking Lear's "great stage of fools" as a line that can embrace the whole play. For one thing, it predisposes the audience to look for jokes, and several arrive, unintended, from the lips of David Bradley's Albany. Last night, even the stage joined in the fun, when the electric safety

curtain opened on Jonathan Hyde's seraphically soliloquizing Edgar and promptly closed again.

Outside its comic zone, the production is oblique and muted. Sara Kestelman and Jeremy Agutter make a vigorous defiance for Goneril and Regan as dutiful daughters, much put upon but still ready for a parental hug, until they go overboard without warning into black villainy. With a natural Edmund, Jonathan Hyde, in the company, the part goes to Clive Wood who deprives it of satanic wit and sexuality in favour of brainish power.

The development of Mr Gambon's Lear is reflected in its costume; beginning in mythically jewelled robes and ending in hospital pyjamas.

His stages of growth are projected with the physical precision of a man slowly walking a high wire, and with a deliberate avoidance of direct paths and high passion. Often, he sounds like a doctor, impassively inquiring into the cause of hard hearts as he departs a pillow with his knife. Typically, when he gets to the last "never", he brusquely throws it away. This is all admirable, but it supplies no solution for the great curses of the storm scene, which also defies the inextricably resourceful Ilona Sekacz: one amazing burst from her synthesized infernal chorus, and the storm music subsides into piffing percussion while Lear addresses the heavens from the top of a conveniently placed flag-pole.

Irving Wardle

Sister Streams  
Riverside

Well, I am sure it seemed exciting in rehearsal. Dorothy Wordsworth's journals, behind which so much is unsaid and indeed unconscious, are not only a treasure-house of poetic and precise nature observation, but a dim and tantalizing reflection of her deepest relationship. The temptation to seek the springs of that relationship - not to mention those involving William's wife Mary (Michele Wadel), and her sister Sara's with Coleridge and de Quincey, is irresistible.

Buick of Sighs, the company who created this piece and are transferring it to the Old Red Lion in Islington next week and their director, Simon Usher, find those springs in childhood. Experienced fringe-goers will instantly visualize actors writhing on the ground with the vowels of the newborn; quite correct.

You soon become glad that the company numbers only six, because so many actions,

including learning to walk, pass through each actor in turn. They also have a wearing habit of repetition.

Five times the distracted Dorothy just missed a table with the sticks she was placing on it. Coleridge repeats his full name and initials seven times (I forget whether it was he who said seven "ecstasies" at one point) and Dorothy's wonderful diary entry of February 1, 1798, describing the flying leaves as "furnaces of the storm" gets four performances. Coleridge even takes a full minute of babylike attempts to transpire Sara into her pet-name "Astra".

The text is a collage of extracts, but few spectators will know William's and Coleridge's journals, or Dorothy's journals well enough to grasp their context, meaning and application. There is no movement or development in this 100 minutes of abortive fragments, though moments are as rich in emotion as limited skill and variety in verbal delivery will allow.

But the cast take delightfully to group scenes like robbing a bird's nest, picking their way

across rivers or sliding on the ice, and Lucy Weller's set, exquisitely lit by Ben Ormerod, fills the enormous acting area with the evocative detritus of Lakeland cottage life.

Anthony Masters

Paris  
opera  
season

Calling the Paris Opera a "massive elephant", over which he intended to exercise his authority clearly, the new general administrator, Italy's Massimo Bogianckino, aged 60, has announced the programme for the coming season.

It will open on September 28 with Luca Ronconi's new production in French of *Mozart en Egypte* by Rossini. Other new productions will include Messiaen's *Saint Francis of Assisi*, directed by Seiji Ozawa (November 28), Verdi's *Jerusalem* (end of February), *Iphigenie en Tauride* by Gluck (end May, beginning June), and Wagner's *Tannhauser*, in a production by the Hungarian film director Istvan Szabo (end June).

Also included in the season are Mozart's *Die entführung* (end of January), co-produced with La Scala of Milan; Puccini's *Madame Butterfly* (October), beginning of November; and Massenet's *Werther* (April and July). Productions in the Salle Favart will include a French version of Henze's *La chatte anglaise*, *Dido and Aeneas*, by Purcell, *La Demoiselle Elue*, by Debussy, and *Il Matrimonio Segreto* by Cimarosa.

The ballet programme includes the return to the repertoire of Raymondina on November 5; Marco Spada, revived by Pierre Lacotte (end of March, beginning of April), and Rudolph Nureyev's *The Tempest* in March.

Roger Beardwood

LSSO/Fletcher  
St John's

Wildly, wonderfully ambitious as ever, the Leicestershire School Symphony Orchestra arrived in London on Tuesday night with one of the most complicated and variously challenging of orchestral scores, Ives's Fourth Symphony, and preceded it not with something safe and simple, but with three pieces specially written for the occasion.

The first was also Ivesian: an amplification of his setting of lines from Browning's *Paracelsus*, done up for large orchestra by Douglas Young.

Alice in Wonderland  
Palace, Manchester

The title *Alice in Wonderland* probably guarantees a ballet good audiences, even if it is less well done than this new production by Northern Ballet Theatre. On the other hand, it is never going to be able to rise much above the level of a series of encores for children who are instantly recognisable, some of them from *Through the Looking Glass*, but offer little chance of development.

So the ballet remains a series of numbers and depends for its success on how well the lay figures are given an illusion of life. Rosemary Helliwell, an English member of the Stuttgart Ballet, has made a very presentable job of it. This is her first production for an English company, although her list of credits in Germany and elsewhere is impressive for a woman still young.

She has tried, but without much effect, to give the work some emotional depth by introducing Lewis Carroll as a character - in his own person for a prologue and epilogue, and between whiles appearing as a dodo, caterpillar, a shy deer, (in which guise he has a duet with Alice) and the knave accused of stealing cards; Alice, of course, comes to his aid.

Lynn Jezzard as Alice has to second much of her time sitting and staring. She does it sweetly and attentively, and rises enthusiastically to every opportunity of real dancing. David Needham gives Lewis Carroll a sad, wistful seriousness; no hint of anything untoward in his duets.

Oliver Munoz, as the White

The other two pieces were exciting and excitingly played. Coming within a year of his first Sinfonia at the last Proms, Nigel Osborne's Sinfonia No 2 found him concerned with similar issues: wandering, wistful melody in the strings, an eruption of reggae-influenced dynamism, at once sleek and savage, and a search for reconciliation.

This time, however, the images are bolder, partly no doubt, because the work was conceived for young players, but partly too, so it would seem, because Osborne wants to confront his material with less provocation.

The West Indian music is altogether franker and now, instead of being clasped in a

finale, it provides a rude scherzo that stirs the music to an ending bringing strong melodic tentatives up against noisy, metal-bard outbursts. The close is depressed into the quiet bass of the orchestra.

Andrew Wilson-Dickson's *Summer Lightning* had a simpler plan. Warm murmur strings like Darius three generations on, spread over Bach muting in a piano and some bee music set down by a seventeenth-century eccentric, and transcribed for a quartet of crumhornes, when they entered the effect was of mock-messages being picked up on a radio.

Paul Griffiths

## Dance



Lynn Jezzard and David Needham in their duet

Rabbit, has the most prominent of the smaller roles, and fills it nicely. Sui Ka Chiang makes one who the Cheesecake Cat has more to do, and quite a few other dancers catch the eye in tiny parts.

The score by Joseph Horowitz is an adaptation (not very drastic, so far as distant memory serves) of one he wrote for Festival Ballet in the 1950s. It is pastiche music, but ably done and enjoyable enough. Elizabeth Dalton is the designer. Her costumes, distantly and

discreetly recalling Tenniel, are pretty, but her settings, a study in brown, perhaps too tactfully avoid gaiety and end up like a series of faded Liberty prints.

Northern Ballet's other work with music by Horowitz, *Mis Carter Wore Pink*, was an obvious but ill-advised curtain-raiser: inferior in quality, except for Philip Prowse's designs, and insufficient contrast. Audiences on the tour following the Manchester run will do better with a different curtain-raiser.

John Percival

## Galleries

## Watch what you're treading on

## The Eastern Carpet in the Western World

Hayward Gallery

## Carpets in Paintings

National Gallery

Though we accept in principle that carpets can be works of art, it may often be difficult to remember that as we unthinkingly trample them underfoot. Of course that is, as well, what carpets are for, and often in the past an index of the owner's richer and grander was precisely the degree of negligence with which he could afford to treat something so splendid as the carpet beneath his heel. But the National Gallery's show *Carpets in Paintings* (until July 24) also provides evidence of the care and even reverence with which the finest contemporary products of oriental carpet workshops were treated by Europeans during the sixteenth century.

In portraits and domestic interiors they are as often on the table as the floor, and their prominent positioning in paintings such as Crivelli's *Annunciat*

ation or Holbein's *The Ambassadors* is a further indication of their importance.

The National Gallery show does include some rare and beautiful carpets, but to see in its full splendour the kind of thing so frequently featured in paintings that it has come to be known by the painters' names - we talk of Holbein's, Lotto, Crivelli, and Bellini carpets - you must go to the Hayward Gallery's Show *The Eastern Carpet in the Western World* (until July 23).

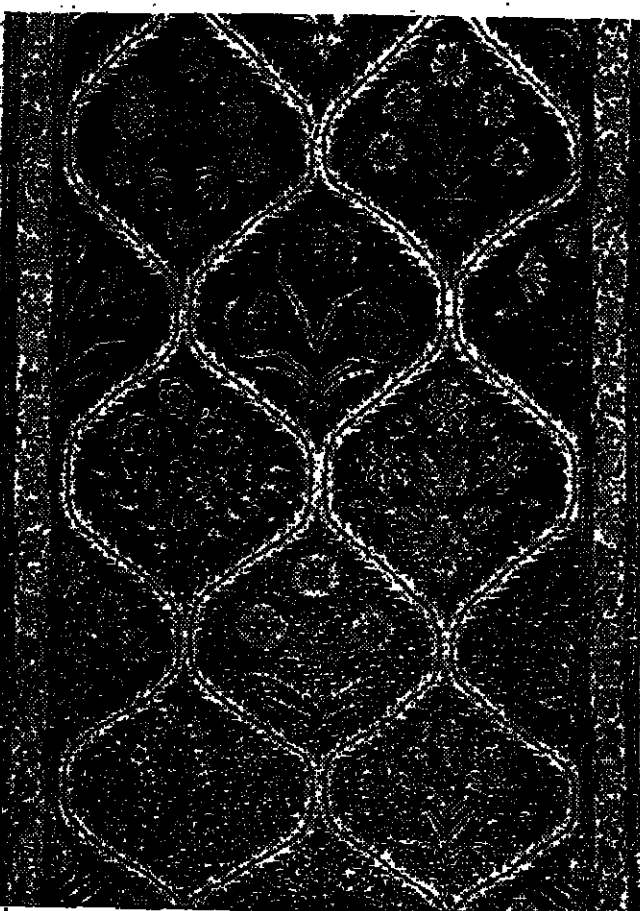
Here the immediate impression is of entering a treasure house. No doubt conservation requirements are primarily responsible for the low light levels. But once the eye gets used to them, the effect is perfect: for showing off the subtlest details of colour and texture, and the prevailing dusk, the carpets shimmer and glow in pools of light, seeming to change in colour and pattern as one approaches or retreats, walks past them or just stands and stares.

In fact, I can never remember the rather unmanageable spaces of the Hayward used to better effect purely as a piece of installation: the show is masterly, using to the full the

gallery's possibilities in the way of unexpected vistas and multiple levels of viewpoint. But finally it must be the carpets themselves which make the show. And here there is no faulting the organizers' sense of scale: we can see more than 50 of the finest (and most often famous) carpets in the world.

Every visitor will have his or her own favourites. Mine are the wonderfully rich, under-payed, geometrical Mamluk carpets, as most splendidly represented by the immense Medici carpet recently discovered rolled up, in almost pristine condition, in a store-room of the Pitti Palace. Or at least I think those are my favourites, until I come round to some of the lovely Indian or Persian animal carpets, or to a severely worn medallion carpet which has rather touchingly gained in delicacy of colouring from what it has lost in substance, or the Märby rug, which looks improbably Scandinavian even before you know it: somehow found its way from Anatolia to a remote Swedish country church. For the moment, the Hayward is a treasure house indeed.

John Russell Taylor



Mid-17th century Indian carpet at the Hayward

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## SPECTRUM

Geneva behind closed doors: John Barry describes how the first attempt at an agreement on the reduction of European missiles disintegrated in Washington and Moscow, and how the generals hijacked the Soviet arms control team

# New men take over in Moscow

Liberal mythology has transmuted Washington's response to Nitze's plan into a triumph of the forces of darkness over light. In this epic version, everyone greeted the plan enthusiastically until "the prince of darkness", Pentagon arms-control hawk Richard Perle, heard of it and killed it. The epilogue contends that, but for this American rejection, the Soviets might have accepted the deal.

All wrong, President Reagan and his most senior advisers were initially ambivalent about the package, liking it in outline but seeing problems in detail. Reagan asked two questions. Strategic: "Can the joint chiefs of staff live without the Pershing-2?" Tactical: "If it is a good deal, should NATO accept it, or would we get a better one by waiting?"

The joint chiefs split on the merits of the Pershing-2, but all stressed one point. For NATO to agree, as part of a deal, not to deploy ballistic missiles was one thing; but to have NATO denied by treaty the right to deploy such missiles was unacceptable.

By the time Perle arrived back at the Pentagon in mid-August from a summer seminar, that was the Defence Department's view. It is fair to say, though, that when Defence Secretary Weinberger gave Perle the job of writing the department's paper on the Nitze plan - a paper subsuming the joint chiefs' opinions - Perle at once broadened the opposition.

Basically, Perle argued that if the US abandoned Pershing-2, Europe would shortly thereafter abandon cruise as well. Pershing was "the keystone of the arch". So it would be zero in exchange for what? Not that Perle really thought the Soviets would accept Nitze's concessions. Why should Moscow settle now, when the peace movements might yet block all NATO deployments?

What really scared Perle was the thought that the Soviets might choose to leak Nitze's paper in Europe. He foresaw that Chancellor Schmidt would at once grasp the abandonment of the Pershing-2, whatever the Soviet response to the rest of the package. Result: total collapse of western negotiating position.

If Nitze himself had continued to back his plan, Perle's memorandum might have been less influential. But when Nitze met once more with President Reagan and his senior advisers towards the end of August, he too had doubts - because of a final twist to his deal with Kvitvinsky.

As they had parted after their walk, Kvitvinsky had asked Nitze not to broach the plan in Washington until he had sounded out Moscow. (Nitze kept silent, neither accepting nor rejecting that constraint.) Kvitvinsky said that if opinion in Moscow was favourable, he would send word to Nitze. If the message did not come, would Nitze please forget the plan.

The message never came. At the decision meeting with Reagan, therefore, Nitze was torn. He thought the political and public-relations need for compromise was still strong. But if the Soviets were going to reject their part of his package, then the US would merely weaken its hand if it accepted the other half.

So the decision was made. The US would wait for the Soviets to respond first. If they expressed any interest at all, then Nitze was to say that the US had some difficulties with the package but would be willing to discuss details - and that the US in any event was anxious to keep open this private Nitze-Kvitvinsky channel.

That was why Secretary of State George Shultz, when he met Gromyko at the United Nations on September 28, took the apparently strange course of saying nothing about the Nitze proposal. He was waiting for Gromyko to mention it first. Gromyko never did. Instead, as he arrived at Geneva airport the same day, Kvitvinsky read a typed statement to waiting newsmen. It was a harsh attack on US negotiating tactics - and the clearest possible signal to Nitze that his compromise was rejected. "Comrade", Kvitvinsky said to him when they next met alone, "I hear you had your troubles in Washington. I had mine in Moscow".

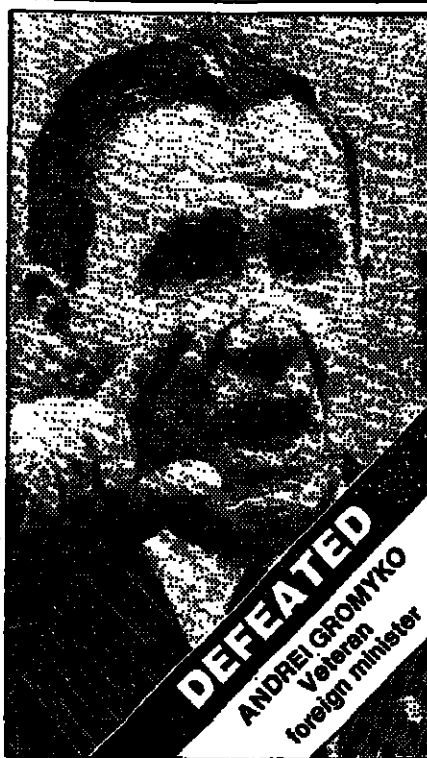
What happened? The explanation hinted at by Soviet sources is that Moscow made essentially the decision Richard Perle had predicted. It was too soon to concede.

The Soviet hints add up to this. Gromyko was indeed looking for a deal, but his room for manoeuvre in Moscow was limited. To sell a compromise to the Soviet military, he needed from the West both the concession Nitze offered - no Pershing-2 - and the one he himself had stressed to Kvitvinsky: compensation for British and French missiles. But that, in turn, implies the Soviet general staff was not really interested in a deal. For, taken together, those would represent not a compromise by the West but the total collapse of its negotiating position, since it would leave zero NATO deployments against a sizeable SS-20 force. So perhaps Kvitvinsky did exceed his brief.

Kvitvinsky virtually said as much to Nitze in their first private conversation of the third round. He had been reprimanded in Moscow, he said, berated severely. Nitze had cheated him, they said, out-foxed him - and the specific issue had been the British and French systems. And he hinted at factions: there were people in Moscow, he said, not at all unhappy that the United States had its own difficulties with the proposal.

But there must be more to it than that. Behind Kvitvinsky's blue-tinted spectacles lies a sharp and calculating brain. He was convinced last summer that he was acting inside Gromyko's instructions. Something changed in Moscow during the summer. What?

The answer is surely Brezhnev's health. The old man had suffered another stroke at the end of March, on a plane back from Tashkent, and though his doctors got him back into action, he declined steadily until his death in November. Perhaps, that final summer, he did cherish dreams of a summit to seal some last triumphant set of arms-control agreements. But it was too late. By mid-summer the succession crisis must have dominated everything in the Kremlin - dominating, certainly, the actions of Gromyko.



For the emergence of a new Soviet leader is a process still not too distant from Boris Godunov. Imagine an American president selected by a collegium comprising the Pentagon, the CIA, the FBI, the big city bosses and a few veteran state governors: you have the Soviet leadership contest. And the most powerful of today's boyars are the military.

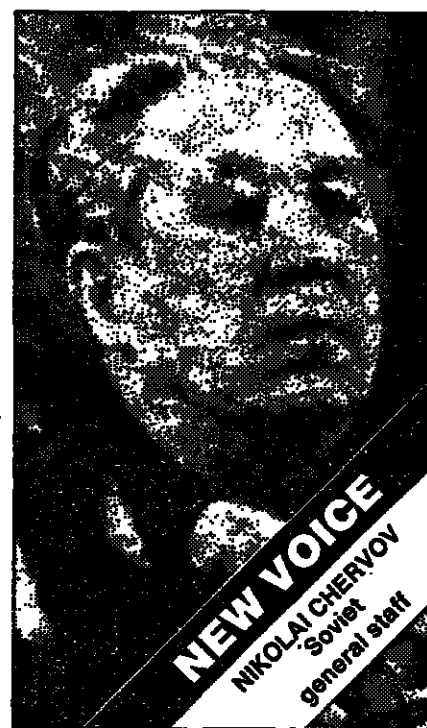
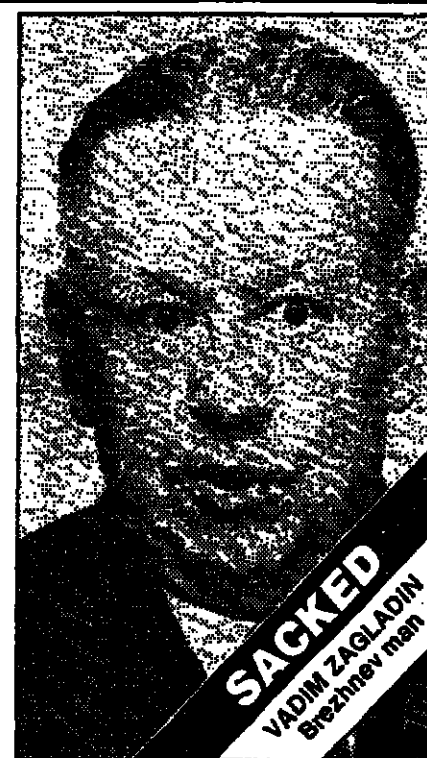
By last autumn neither Gromyko nor any other member of the Politburo was even going to look at a deal in Geneva that the military did not like. And the Soviet general staff, it is fair to assume, is among the strongest adherents to Moscow's own zero option: zero NATO deployments. On that reading, Nitze's compromise never stood a chance in Moscow.

All that has changed at Geneva as a result of Yuri Andropov's succession as Soviet leader has been the skill with which Moscow has concealed from European public opinion this immobility at the heart of the Kremlin's position.

When Andropov announced last Christmas the Soviet offer to cut its European SS-20 deployments to match the 162 British and French missiles, Moscow won the propaganda initiative for the first time since President Reagan had deployed the zero-zero option. It took NATO four months to concert its response, while in Washington it seemed as if Reagan had decided to give Andropov a free ride. First, Washington muffed its reception of the Andropov offer. Then Eugene Rostov, a figure Europeans had come to respect as a serious force for arms control in an unenthusiastic administration, was fired from the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

Yet the West knew the Andropov offer was coming. There was nothing new about it. As far back as February last year, when the Soviets tabled at Geneva the first outline of a draft treaty, Kvitvinsky indicated that, as an alternative to the 300-limit this proposed for each side, Moscow would accept a 162-missile ceiling: 162 SS-20s equalling 162 British and French forces.

That offer came behind closed doors. But by late November, as the third round drew to a close at Geneva, it was clear from Kvitvinsky's comments in the informal session - the so-called "post-plenaries" - which followed each formal meeting - that the Soviets



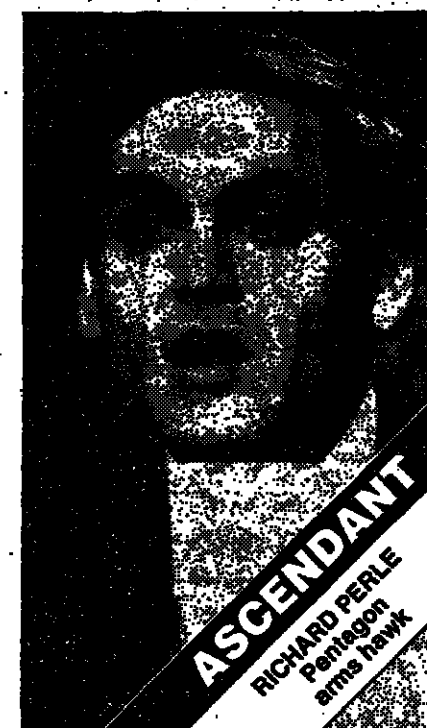
were about the unveiling of the 162 idea in public. That was why Nitze, arriving home in Washington in early December, at once began pressing not merely for an American compromise but for serious consideration of how to salvage matters if the Europeans backed away from deployment altogether.

Both Chancellor Schmidt and President Mitterrand were by now hinting privately that they would accept what insiders call the "magic number": solution: zero NATO deployments in exchange for a cut in European SS-20 deployments to some "magic number" - anything from 50 to 100. Nitze thought Andropov would unveil the 162 offer at the best moment to influence the German election in the spring, and he thought there was a real possibility that, under the pressures of a close-fought campaign, both major

**Nitze lost. His ideas for compromise had been rejected. Depressed, he thought of resigning**

German parties might accept the offer. But Nitze lost. By mid-January, his ideas for compromise had been rejected. Depressed, Nitze contemplated resignation. His wife's worsening emphysema would provide a legitimate excuse - a genuine one, indeed, since he is very worried about her. But then in mid-January, Eugene Rostov was fired, and Nitze realized he was trapped. If he quit too, the result would be such uproar in Europe that the NATO deployment programme would collapse - and then he foresaw irreparable damage to the Atlantic Alliance.

Nitze was canny enough to see, however, that if his unique position means he cannot quit (barring some genuine deterioration in his wife's health), it also means he cannot be fired. So, in a session with President



Reagan before setting off for Geneva once more in January, he very politely extracted better negotiating terms. Nitze's written instructions in January were essentially to plod on with zero-zero. In conversation with the President, however, he was given much greater latitude: the freedom to explore with Kvitvinsky any reasonable hope for compromise.

Through the fourth round at Geneva, however, Nitze had no chance to exercise this. When the delegations met on January 27, Kvitvinsky tabled Andropov's 162 proposal as a series of amendments to the Soviets' initial draft treaty. Dutifully, Nitze and his delegation slogged through the fine print. But Kvitvinsky did not bother to hide that for Moscow everything was waiting upon the West German elections on March 6.

Andropov's failure to achieve zero NATO deployments through intervention in the German election indicates some of the problems his succession struggle has bequeathed him. Instead of a subtle wooing, Moscow's campaign in Germany was a crude muddle. And both the crudeness and the muddle can be traced to the succession.

One set of staff changes tells the story. In mid-January, Vadim Zagladin and Valentin Falin, the Central Committee officials who together had run, under Brezhnev, the Soviets' nuclear propaganda campaign in Germany, were brusquely shunted from their posts. Western observers were amazed: "My God, that guy Falin deserved a medal for his work in West Germany," one high Washington official observed.

Falin's downfall may have had a personal cause: it is rumoured in Moscow that his stepson has defected. But as a group that Central Committee team seems to have been disbanded because its members support Andropov's rival, Chernenko. If so, it was a costly piece of court politics. Without Falin, the Kremlin lacked its subtlest expert on Germany - a trusted emissary to the German left - during the campaign.

Even Falin, though, would have been able to do little about Moscow's other mistake in the election: its rigidity on the Euromissile issue. For early last November, as Brezhnev's life ebbed away, the new men announced their power. Colonel General Nikolai Chervov, a member of the Soviet

general staff, stated baldly that the arms talks in Geneva were at deadlock because of deliberate United States efforts to block progress. Which being translated means even before Brezhnev's death, the Soviet military was telling the world that his successor would be in no position to make concessions.

Since then Chervov - who previously had made only rare appearance as a Soviet spokesman - has become the arms-control mouthpiece of the new regime. He has been joined by Major General Yuri Lebedev, the general staff representative on Kvitvinsky's delegation. While the West, in other words, agonized over the adequacy of President Reagan's choice as head of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency in Moscow - which of course has no equivalent agency - the military have summarily signalled their control of policy.

So it is no surprise that Andropov's December offer was in reality no more than a public statement of the Soviets' initial alternative proposal made behind closed doors in Geneva. Nor is it a surprise that his latest offer - announced in a speech on May 3 at a Kremlin banquet in honour of the East German leader Erich Honecker - should be yet another wrapping around the same, unchanged position.

**The irony is that it is the Soviet Union and not the US which is still locked into 'zero option'**

The irony, as both sides settle into the fifth round of negotiations which began in Geneva on May 17, is that it is the Soviet Union and not the United States which is still locked into the "zero option". In March at European urging, President Reagan abandoned the West's "zero-zero" stance. But Moscow retains its initial demand: zero NATO deployments. There is no evidence that Andropov wants to abandon this nor any that the Soviet military would allow him to.

Instead, Andropov must be weighing tough choices - choices about actions outside the conference chamber. How much further pressure will he put upon West Germany? For the Geneva talks are going to fail unless either the West capitulates and abandons its deployment plans or the Soviet leadership agrees to deep cuts than it has ever contemplated in its SS-20 forces. To avoid that, Moscow will seek to achieve its goal by increased pressure on western Europe. The stakes are that high.

In this respect, Soviet commentators have been a better guide to Geneva than their western counterparts. The fragmentary western insights have focused on systems, numbers, minutiae; but the Soviets have consistently stressed that the issue is political and strategic. They are right. Arms-control treaties codify the strategic relationship between the signatories: the heart of any treaty has to be a political agreement about the nature of that relationship.

What is at issue at Geneva is the strategic relationship between western Europe and the Soviet Union. Moscow wants to have a nuclear monopoly on the continent: its aim at Geneva is to remove from Europe all US nuclear weapons capable of striking the Soviet Union, while itself retaining hundreds of warheads targeted on western Europe. But in December 1979, the Atlantic Alliance decided that, in an age of superpower nuclear parity, western Europe needed the means to strike Soviet targets from bases on its own soil.

That contradiction is the strategic issue unresolved at the heart of the Geneva talks; and by definition it cannot be resolved at Geneva or by negotiations anywhere. It can be resolved only by a political decision by western Europe to retreat on the issue and accept Soviet nuclear dominance over the continent - or by a continuing effort of will to assert a very different strategic balance.

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Today sees the introduction of an entirely new nature feature. The nearest that most of us get to nature these days, apart from watching David Attenborough in a darkened room, is seeing the side of the motorway flash past our car window. To help us enjoy and understand motorway nature more, famous naturalist "Hard Shoulder" will be answering your queries from time to time.

Isn't it dangerous to watch nature from a car at full speed? What is there to see on a motorway anyway? - D. B. Dalwick.

"Hard Shoulder" writes: This may surprise you, but research has shown that passengers, not being in control of a car, tend to keep their eyes on the road far more than drivers do, something like 64 per cent of the time instead of drivers' 32 per cent. Therefore drivers have plenty of time to study nature and passengers could if they wanted to. I believe that sincere

nature study could eliminate most backseat driving.

As for your second question, motorways contain far more nature than the average landscape. Motorways are free from the three great pests of the countryside: pesticides, farmers and ramblers. Indeed, motorway banks are the last great nature reserves.

What are the commonest flowers on motorways? T. H. of Paddington.

"Hard Shoulder" writes: The Yellow Blue, the Red Rocket, the Flash of Blue and Pink Streak. For closer identification, you can always pull over to the hard shoulder and stop, though it is wise to raise your bonnet and put on your warning lights before you go botanizing. If you are still baffled, there are many telephone boxes spaced along motorways which you can use to raise queries about wild flowers.

## Nature study at 70mph

**NOROVER... Miles Kington**

What kind of grass is most common along motorways? - S. K. of Totnes.

"Hard Shoulder" writes: Two kinds - ordinary grass and marijuana. Marijuana is most commonly found growing thickly behind those little ramps marked "Police Patrol Vehicles Only", where brightly coloured police cars can often be seen with their occupants reading the paper. Quite why this should be associated with marijuana is not known, but the most likely theory is that policemen often use the rest in order to clean out their cars. No doubt many particles of cannabis, left-over from raids, or recent trials, or visits to pop stars' homes, are brushed out with the crisp packets and old handkerchiefs, and

grow readily round the ramps.

Why are the bushes beside motorways so small? They never seem to grow very high. - C. M. of Bath.

"Hard Shoulder" writes: Good point. Generally, you should slow down for a "wild life ahead" sign. Falling Rocks, for instance, or Cattle Crossing. But in the case of roads or any small, slow form of life, it is better to drive as fast as possible. You are going to win the encounter whatever speed you collide at, so obviously if you drive quickly through the afflicted area, you will be in it for less time and have less chance of hitting anything. Deer Crossing you can approach, either way, depending on whether you prefer live deer or venison. For cattle, I stay absolutely still. If they move

very slowly past the car, I usually nip out and milk one - I always keep a bucket handy for the purpose.

Why are there so many rooks on hard shoulders? - M.B. of Boston.

"Hard Shoulder" writes: Odd, isn't it? We're still not sure why, but we think they are acting in collaboration with motorway hawks, those predators which can often be seen hovering over the banks. The rooks decoy the motorist, the motorist crashes, the hawk comes in like a vulture and finishes off the motorist.

Is there any evidence for this rather David Attenboroughish view of the world? - M.B. of Boston.

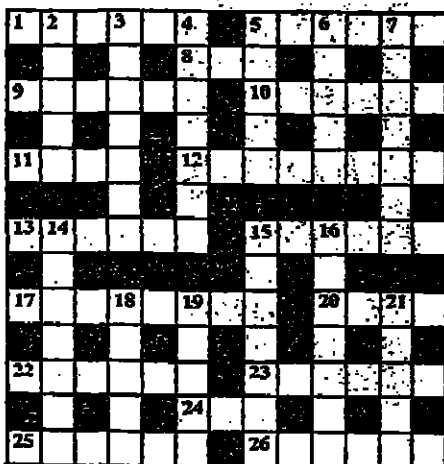
"Hard Shoulder" writes: None at all, but it is going to make a smashing episode in my forthcoming TV nature series, "The Living Motorway".

If you have any queries about motorway nature, or have seen something inexplicable and sensational, don't hesitate to write to "Hard Shoulder" about it.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 73)

- ACROSS  
1 Meat (6)  
5 Refuse (6)  
8 Colour (3)  
9 Agree (6)  
10 Stroke (6)  
12 Story teller (8)  
13 Exhilarated (6)  
15 Overrun (6)  
17 Workman (8)  
20 Sail swing (4)  
22 Metal covered (6)  
23 Foreign (6)  
24 Deceive (3)  
25 Tacky (6)  
26 Catch fire (6)

- DOWN  
2 West down (5)  
3 Very old (7)  
4 Made king (7)  
5 Direct (5)  
6 Military rules (5)  
7 Inquisitive (7)  
8 Brief paper (7)  
15 Jewish national (7)



SOLUTION TO No 72  
ACROSS: 1 Suffer 4 Poplin 7 Dull 8 Viscount 9 Liarist 12 Arc 15 Flambe 16 Assume 17 Roe 19 Desolate 24 Dead Shot 25 Prop 26 Static 27 Trotter  
DOWN: 1 Soda 3 Fulminant 5 Raver 4 Point 6 Pool 6 Inner 10 Embellish 11 Eased 12 Adulter 13 Chew 14 Aft 16 Overt 20 Ethic 21 Overt 22 Add 23 Spur



## BOOKS

Histories make men wise? *Bacon*A Personal History  
By A. J. P. Taylor

(Hamish Hamilton, £9.95)

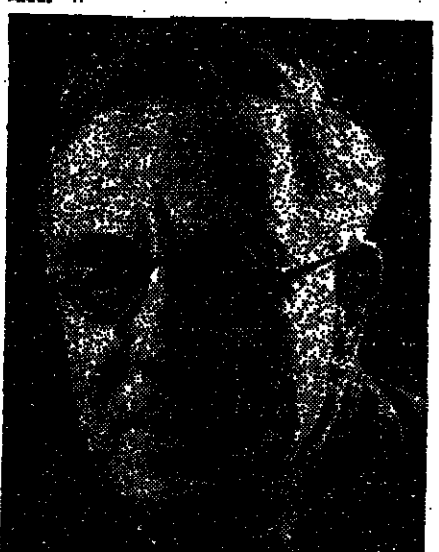
An image pads after you as you close this book of lighted windows outside which a small and elderly gentleman is pushing a wheelbarrow full of books. Quite alone, he disappears into the dark.

There have been 30 books. The author returns to this fact again and again, and there is even a photograph of them, stacked like rifles, for historians, like gunfighters, to keep count. Their number becomes even more important when, in a distinguished career, some glittering prizes are conspicuously absent. Lesser men stand in the lighted windows, who shall never see so much nor live so long.

Mr Taylor's is a useful autobiography lit occasionally by force. Much of the latter is provided by his first wife's distressing habit of falling in love with other men, with his student Robert Kee (later the man who, in Philip Pearsall's image, got up at dawn to polish the news for TV-AM) and with the poet Dylan Thomas. Mr Taylor could not stand Thomas or his poetry. He introduces him giggling, "he he he", the way Frank Richards introduced Bunter, and even now is plagued by him: American poets still thank him for his kindness to the poet.

Perhaps as a result there is no poetry in this book, and no imagery. There are many facts (as when the author consummates his first love affair in the Shillingford Bridge Hotel, helped by a gynaecologist's knife) delivered in short, spiky, statements followed by a brief reflection. Paragraphs end "Such was..."

This is Mr Taylor undergoing his first experience of sex in the bath with the family maid, "an activity that gave pleasure to both parties." The effect is that neat red lines are drawn under every experience, and you have a horrifying picture of a naked child with a 77-year-old face.



At no point do you feel that he was ever young. As a child he devised his parents' holiday itineraries and was convinced that grown-ups were mad. There were no loyalties, and no doubts. Nothing changed. There is much personal betrayal, which he seems to have expected, much disillusion (especially with women) and with the Labour Party and with trade unions. There is some self-satisfaction, Mr

Taylor having never learnt the habits of modesty inculcated by the English public schools. He is, he reflects, "a more or less serious historian"; he is also "the most distinguished historian of modern times" at Oxford. He regards himself as an outsider.

He has little good to say about anyone, though there is pride in his children whom he regards as his best friends. He is also proud of his ability to walk long distances, and of his teeth (fixed up for him, presumably free, at a dental hospital). He seems to have been always worried about money.

There are some bruised reflections of a bizarre kind, on double beds (he blames much of his marital unhappiness on the fact that he did not share one until he was nearly 70), and on vegetables, the growing of which kept him tied to the land as securely as a serf for much of his adult life.

There is one startling idyll, late-flowering live in the Public Records Office and on the steps of the British Museum which brought him to double-beds and the third Mrs Taylor. Surprisingly, and unlike the poet Yeats who got his at Haul's, he does not say where the bed was bought.

The book was shorter than in manuscript because his second wife objected to her inclusion, so that two children materialized abruptly among the short sentences. Lawyers also found 76 potential cases of libel: Mr Taylor, his eye on subsequent editions, now readily watches the obituary columns.

It is an odd book. There is not a single dull sentence in it; but neither is there anything to make you want to read it again.

Byron Rogers



The Countess as Barber, from *Rainy Days at Brig O'Turk*, the Highland Sketchbooks of John Everett Millais, 1853, edited by Mary Lutyens & Malcolm Warner (Dalrymple, £45). Millais's favourite nickname for Effie was "the Countess"

Science fiction  
Ideas in SpaceDocuments Relating  
To The Sentimental  
Agents In The  
Volcan Empire  
By Doris Lessing

(Cape, £7.95)

Fables find a natural congruity within science fiction, embodying them if may be, with a ready-made circumstance, which is so near to and so far from present reality. This is Lessing's fifth in her *Canopus in Argos: Archives*, which are examining expressions of human behaviour in terms of cultures created purely for the test-tubes of her arguments.

It is at once her most skittish and - while allowing abstraction instead of characterization - her most enjoyably perceptive.

Told mainly via a series of reports from the Canopean agent, Klorathy, it is an account of his encounters with certain inhabitants of the independent planet of Volcan and its two moons, notably with another agent, Incent, who has succumbed to the affliction of Undulant Rhetoric.

This illness, whose symptoms result in a profound excitement about the nature of the world things are, cannot be cured even by the homeopathic treatment/assault of Tchaikovsky and Wagner. It requires the Total Immersion therapy of re-living the French Revolution to bring Incent back to some sort of sense.

In the beginning - and in the end - are words and it is their interchange with human emotion which is one of the most fascinating aspects of the book's description of a world in which revolutionary fervour is fermenting like yeast, and a revolutionary leader will fall into the declaration of "We will fight them on the beaches..." as an easy way out of logical thought.

Some phrases escape from the maelstrom of words to pierce a situation: "There is no such thing as a free lunch" is one. But too often those words

affect emotion - good by self-definition - instead of the other way around. "Blood... history... leadership" are unfurled banners going where?

Miss Lessing's story provokes us into a reaction to stand up and be counted for what we think. Its tone is light, but its mood is serious. It lacks the humanity of a *Candide*, because there is no character whose progress we feel an identity with or an affinity to. It is about ideas and what we do with them and what they do with us. It is a fable-turning of the most readable kind.

Cat Karina by Michael Coney (Gollancz, £7.95). This different slant on humanity is that of the eyes, for our heroine is Karina, with jagged genes in her not-quite-human veins. Her adventures to an eventual mating with a true human, in a world populated by such beings as enormous land-whales, result in the release of an alien greatness imprisoned within one of this earth's many happenstances. Mr Coney plots too densely for narrative comfort, and the religious echoes we have heard often before, but it is a superb piece of world-making.

The First Chronicles of Thomas Covenant The Unbeliever, by Stephen Donaldson (Richard Drew, £10.95). Good-value pull-together of the three volumes comprising the story of a leprosy Thomas whose doubts of his own value are overtaken by realization that he has a white magic within him with which to conquer evil. Tolkien look-alike with its own distinctive and highly readable perspective on myth.

Tom Hutchinson

In Pursuit of the Past, by Lewis R. Binford (Thames & Hudson, £12.50). Archaeology is not just a matter of piecing together the bits and pieces of the past. The American master of the New Archaeology decodes the record, and explains how we can draw warranted conclusions.

## The woman with BB

Mary Berenson

A Self Portrait from her Letters  
Edited by Barbara Strachey & Jayne Samuels  
(Gollancz, £12.95)

In 1891, when she was 27, Mary Costelloe abandoned her husband and two small daughters in London, and ran off with Bernard Berenson, for love and for the Italian art of which he was the rising young connoisseur. She lived with him for the next 30 years, marrying him when her husband died. She was one of the most remarkable women of the past century.



Mary, aged 20, from a drawing by Ed Clifford, December 1884

intellectual, passionate, witty, a free spirit.

She had been born Mary Smith, into the famous Pearsall Smith Quaker family of Philadelphia. Cut off from family and friends by scandal and geography, she kept in touch by a prodigious correspondence. Mary was a prolific and entertaining letter-writer, exceptionally interested in and frank about herself and everyone else in sight. She wrote to her husband, Bernard, and to her sister Alice, Bernard Russell's first wife, to BB in the summers which she normally spent with

her family to her daughters as they grew up, to friends and relations. More than five million words of this mass of material survive. It opens a window on a vanished world and an extraordinary woman.

Her grand-daughter, Barbara Strachey, author of that model family history, *Remarkable Relations*, and Jayne Samuels, BB's biographer, have constructed a narrative of Mary's life out of extracts from her letters and selections from her intimate diaries, linked by short introductions to fill in the scene.

It is a fascinating story, as the intelligentsia, the artistic, the rich, and the arch-pretends troop through *I Tatti*. We meet and discuss Gertrude Stein swimming clad in nothing but a towel, and Gertrude Stein being sent out as a congenial young companion for Mary's daughter, rather than the usual thick English "bandersnatches", Kenneth Clark, Bertie Russell, rich old uncle Jo Duveen, and all.

Neither Mary nor Bernard can have been easy to live with. They were neurotic, and jealous of each other's work in the busy world of "working for the Squierians." They each had a series of passionate affairs: "inflammations of the heart." Mary described them to her mother. BB increasingly had a terrible dark temper, particularly directed at Mary. But neither of them was ever boring to live with. And they knew that their pioneering work in Italian art appreciation would last. Of the remarkable pair of eagles, give me Mary every time. Hers was a royal nature, which man could never tame, and which gave and got the most out of life, and saw the funny side.

Philip Howard

The Last Flowering: French Painting in Manuscripts 1420-1530, by John Plummer (Oxford, £60). A wealth of French illumination from the late Middle Ages is housed in American collections. It is the major body of French painting of the period outside France. The manuscripts contain some of the best work by leading artists and schools; but they are little known by the public and neglected by scholars. This important scholarly book fills a black hole in our understanding of art.

## Educating Casca

The Oxford  
Dictionary of  
Modern GreekEdited by J. T. Peling  
(Oxford, £9.50)

Greek, we all know, was what Cicero spoke and was Greek to Casca. It was the language of Homer. Plato and the New Testament, and survives even now as the oldest language in Europe, whose voluble hubbub provides an atmospheric background to an Aegean holiday. But the language of Greeks today is more than those things: it is now (since January 1981) an official language of the EEC, solemnly inscribed, in our local supermarkets, on packets of cocktail biscuits and disposable nappies, and in demand in the translation and interpreting sections of European institutions: it is the language of a substantial international business community and of Greeks of the "diaspora" worldwide; and it is the language in which two recent Nobel prize winners, George Seferis and Odysseus Elytis, have written their poetry.

There has long been a need for a manageable and accurate dictionary to guide the English-speaking learner or traveller through the Modern Greek language in all of these manifestations. *The Oxford Dictionary of Modern Greek* (Greek-English) first appeared in 1965, but has only this year been reissued to include an entirely new, and rather larger, section devoted to English-Greek, thus bringing to a conclusion a labour of love which has lasted for more than thirty years for its compiler, Julian Fring.

In its new form the dictionary is both the most reliable and the most comprehensive of its size available. The achievement is the more remarkable in that the thirty-odd years of its gestation have seen significant changes in the language itself, notably the emergence of a fully articulate idiom of the modern urban world, out of the old polarization of Greek into demotic (rural and "low-life") and *katharevousa* (the artificial language of state institutions and of learning). That the older

Greek-English section of the dictionary has not appreciably become dated in the interval since its first publication is a telling tribute to the compiler's sense of what truly belongs to the language, and to his refusal to become sidetracked by the polemical attitudes which have for centuries distorted and inhibited the Greek language as a system of communication. Such inconsistencies as are to be found between the two parts of the dictionary generally reflect no more than the inconsistencies of Greek usage today.

The Greek-English part of the dictionary has been reprinted unchanged from earlier editions, but has been updated with three pages of addenda, ranging from modernisms such as *televisinos* (acupuncture), *koukoules* (member of the Greek CP), to curiosities from the natural world (rennet, garfish, spurge) and the delicious *glistatini* (lollipop).

The English-Greek section has generally fuller entries, with good coverage of phrasal verbs and clear differentiation of meanings according to context. Wherever possible an idiom in the one language has been rendered by an equivalent idiom in the other, although some words and common phrases in both languages defy direct translation and have had to be explained instead. The single weakness which should be mentioned in an otherwise excellent dictionary is that only the present stem of Greek verbs is given. Almost all Greek verbs have distinct present and aorist stems, of which the one cannot regularly be derived from the other. The inclusion of aorist stems would have enabled the user to make an intelligible stab at forming all the tenses of a verb, without recourse to the grammar book.

In the end the aim of any bilingual dictionary must surely be to lead the learner to the point where he can handle a dictionary entirely in the language (be it Greek or English), and that aim is fulfilled admirably here.

Roderick Beaton

## Roll on Death

The Oxford Book of  
DeathChosen and edited by D. J. Enright  
(Oxford, £9.50)

First the obligatory display of erudition and taste from a reviewer confronted with an anthology. Missing from this one are: the death of Jo from *Bleak House* ("Dead, your Majesty. Dead your Lords and gentlemen. Dead, Right Reverends and Wrong Reverends of every Order"), Yeats's magnificent *At Algeciras* ("The heron-billed pale cattle-birds...") and anything of substance from Beckett, surely an expert witness at this inquest.

But my heart is not in this carping for Enright has produced a marvellous book with enough discoveries to make up for any number of omissions. His problem was, of course, the brief: where do you start or, should I say, finish? "Death is not an event of life. Death is not lived through" (Wittgenstein). So it is notably difficult to write directly about. On the other hand it is even more difficult to write about anything else, death being the inescapable debt we owe for the privilege of writing in the first place.

"It is," wrote Empson, "the trigger of the literary man's biggest gun" and Enright himself observes that on no subject are writers more lively. To contain his unwieldy assembly Enright divides his quotations into categories such as Suicide ("Crech, the commentator on Lucretius, noted on his manuscript: 'NB Must hang myself when I have finished.' He kept his word." Voltaire) or Views and Attitudes ("He who hath learned to die, hath learned to serve." Montaigne). Each section is introduced by a calm

little essay, an element which seems to me to represent a flaw in the conception. The pleasure of a book of quotations precisely arises from the absence of an editorial voice. It is a pleasure which derives from the fragmentary condition of the knowledge, from the liberty to create one's own patterns from the material.

Too often, however, it is a pleasure akin to Space Invaders, leaving one feeling guilty at having wasted time on something so plainly self-indulgent, so incoherent. Anthologies like this can murder hours, weeks. But the subject of death confers a guilt-free uniformity. The centrality of the subject concentrates the mind wonderfully.

Grimly you watch every attitude rehearsed from the urbane and complacent: "If you go it will not be an inharmonious thing..." (William James in a letter to his dying father, Henry) to the bleak: "here love ends..." (Edward Thomas). And, fascinated, you note the continual return to the paradoxes of death: "I'm not afraid to die. I just don't want to be there when it happens." Woody Allen Don't worry, Woody, you won't be.

I could go on for ever but there is one fragment for which Enright deserves our undying (?) gratitude. It comes from one Issa and was written shortly after the death of his only child. With perfect economy it expresses the central, heart-breaking paradox - the evident ephemerality of life and yet our complete inability to accept it.

*The world of dew is  
A world of dew, yet even  
So, yet even so...*

Bryan Appleyard

Fiction  
Berry, and Hannay, and Drummond & CoCombined Forces  
By Jack Smithers

(Buchan &amp; Enright, £7.95)

Dancing in the Dark  
By Janet Hobhouse

(Cape, £7.95)

King of the Roses  
By V. S. Anderson

(Macmillan, £7.95)

One of the apocryphal stories about royalty concerns a young man in the 1920s who pestered this newspaper to make him its stringer in Albania. Soon after Albania hit the headlines. As other papers carried reports of dramatic coups, *The Times* despatched a wire requesting copy. No copy came, another cable was sent, with the same result. A final missive warned that unless some material was received by return, the young man would be replaced. This elicited a reply, albeit brief. "All

is quiet in Albania," it read. "I am King Zog."

Equally implausible is this plot to put Zog back on the throne in 1929. It is the biographer of Dornford Yates Jack Smithers is not content for just Berry and Co. to do the job. He has also wheeled out those Clubland heroes, Hannay and Drummond - now elderly men with incipient panaches and slender means. Having forsaken England for a villa in Portugal, they are so retired that they cannot recall that their hostess is the dreaded Irma Petersen. The main trouble is, they spend too much time in remembering past adventures to get on with the present task in hand, a task they undertake, not for romance, but for the money Zog promises them. "We are all of us too old for this sort of business," croaks Hannay, after performing that old Mashona trick of catching a knife between the teeth - only to see his dentures fall out.

What begins as a good idea,

along the lines of *Flashman*, ends in lightweight chaos, probably more fun to have written than to read. If, like old golfers, these men have never dined, they have certainly lost something rather vital. As Buchan might have said of his imitators, *quod licet Jove non licea bene*.

As in her overrated first novel, *Nellie Without Hugo*, Janet Hobhouse focuses again, and more ambitiously, on the problems of middle-class American marriage. Morgan and Gabriella are an egalitarian couple in their thirties. Into their "wonderful marriage" - and their home - lodge two people who highlight the pitfalls and temptations of any consubstantial bliss no longer triggered by the heady responses of former days. In the spare room, and soon forgotten, is Kate, whose husband has run off with her best friend. "How do I go on being single," she moans, "without being humiliated?" On the sofa lies Claudio, a languorous homosexual who feels no such humiliation at this state. Fascinated by the way in which he and his prowling gay contingent seem able to separate sex from friendship, Gabriella escorts them to all-male discos three nights a week. Initially Morgan is relieved he does not have to entertain his wife. Then he broods over the space that has come between them. It literally takes an earthquake before she rejoins him in their bed and sees the error of her ways.

The weakness of *Dancing in the Dark* lies not in the conception nor the writing, which is sustained by some acutely observed human truths. It lies in the author's own ambivalence towards characters who are bland, cryptic, and pretty uninteresting. No doubt Gabriella is intended to be genuinely attracted by the apparent freedom of Claudio's world, but she comes over as a flirtatious "fag-bag", angry at her exclusion from it.

Dick Francis had better look to his felloes with V S Anderson's arrival on the racing track. *King of the Roses* is a pacy and neatly constructed first novel about the Kentucky Derby. It may have the psychological subtlety of a sledgehammer, but nevertheless it pounds along at a mesmerizing rate. Narrow as a whip, Chris Englund is a tight-lipped, hard-edged five times winner of the Derby. His attempt to win a record sixth time on Knidos is complicated by the wishes of a powerful consortium, headed by the horse's evil owner, for him to lose. Against all the odds, Chris romps home, to take the race and the owner's daughter, a titian-haired filly called Jessica. "No other pastime in the world is so full of great stories," is one character's comment on this sport of Kings. No other, that is, except cricket. C B Fry, after all, was offered the throne of Albania.

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Shakespeare

H.A. Williams  
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TT5



# THE TIMES DIARY

## Harrowing

Nearly all our top public schools have declined to be used as the location for the film version of *Julian Mitchell's* West End hit, *Another Country*. Given the thesis of the play - that privilege and homosexuality in public schools help to feed corruption into the adult establishment - the cynics are understandable. Goldcrest is spending £2m on the film, which has a screenplay by Mitchell, himself a Wykehamist, and hopes to emulate the success in America of *Charlton Heston's* *The Ten Commandments* and *Robert Fox*, plan to start shooting in August and would pay "quite a few thousand pounds" for the loan of a suitable building.

## Big new need

Confused politicians have thronged Mr. de la Cour's desk since he started making anagrams of them on Monday. Ceinwen Sinclair of Norfolk says Norman Tebbit is "to bait Mr. Benn", and reminds me that in Scotland they say of Denis Healey "he has yielded". Like Joan Ruddock I have been wrestling with Michael Heseltine but my "Heil Steel in Cheam" is bettered by Gabriel Bowman of Paddington: "Hi, neat leech. Smile!" He also has Shirley Williams: "A silly whim riles. Jeffrey Shaw of Sheffield despatches Ken Livingstone to 'Vile Kensington'". Even I am not immune. Alastair Williams of Sutherland tells me *The Times* Diary is really "It, the DIY scam", while J. H. McGivering of Weybridge suggests that "I steady the rim." I prefer the latter. I like to consider myself a stabilizing influence in this marginal.

## Banned wagon

The voice of David Steel's son Billy has become a nuisance in Orpington. Billy, who is 19, recorded a campaign song with electronic music background for John Cook, the Liberal Alliance candidate. It goes: "Lookie, lookie, lookie - here comes Cockie. Vote for him this time; He's respected, he's got to be elected. Vote John Cook this time!" Apparently the song is so catchy that it has been distracting children doing exams in local schools. Cook has had to promise to keep his loudspeaker vans quiet near schools until going home time.

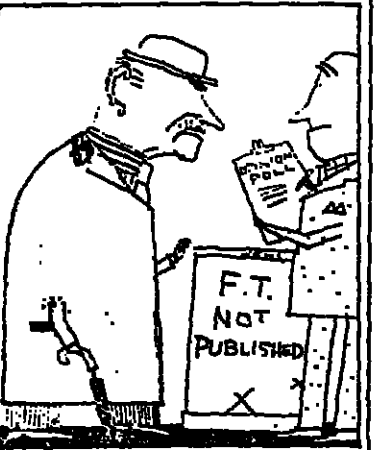
## Boddy counts

You would not have thought the Tories were short of boddy but David Boddy, the party's former director of press and public relations, has been recalled to help out on the Prime Minister's tour. Boddy left Central Office in March to launch a countryside magazine, *Out of Town*. His return is only temporary. He will be back working on his magazine at four o'clock next Friday.

## In the dock

I can leave it to the Labour Party to call the *Daily Mail* liars, but I must say it enrages *The Times* legal department when, as on Tuesday, the *Mail* suggests that it fought a lone crusade against Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church. The truth is that Diana Pait of *The Times* exposed the Moonies long before the *Mail*, and was sued. When the *Mail* in turn picked up a libel writ, that action rapidly replaced that against *The Times* because the defence *Mail* asked so weak. *The Times* then asked our lawyers for help, and was able to use *The Times*' defence in  *toto* to win its celebrated libel action.

BARRY FANTONI



## LSOggy

Tuesday night's storms were as nothing compared to what the London Symphony Orchestra unleashed last week on Bangkok. A long Thai drought ended the moment the orchestra's plane touched down, and the noise of the rain actually stopped play in the middle of their performance of Mahler's first symphony. When the concert resumed, the tuning-up session might have been called a pitch inspection.

The light at the end of the tunnel has burst open, in ministers' description at least, into a full prospect of industrial recovery since I started my competition to discover the Tory statesman or woman who first claimed to have spotted it. Suggestions for Julian Amery on May 1, 1972, Churchill on May 3, 1941, Neville Chamberlain at the Lord Mayor's dinner in 1937, all fail. The most distant contender to date is Stanley Baldwin in 1929, but there is a case of clerical railing on this one, so I am still willing to entertain late claims from anyone who knows better and can supply chapter and verse.

PHS

David Watt

# All the world's a platform, but where are our statesmen?

The Williamsburg summit has come and gone, leaving so far as I can see, not a wrack behind, either at home or abroad. This is no doubt due, on the face of it, one of the most inane gatherings ever to waste the time of eminent political figures. It does, however, draw attention to one of the oddest features of our very odd election campaign, namely the absence of any serious debate about international issues.

Not odd at all, you may say. Foreign policy has played virtually no part in any British election since the war. Why should we expect it to start now? Yet consider this year's agenda. Mrs Thatcher claims that the recession is at least half the fault of the "world economy" (the other half being divided between the British trade unions and previous British governments). Very well, it seems reasonable to ask what she is proposing to do to influence the world economy, and how she thinks its mechanisms work.

Again, Britain is alleged by Mrs Thatcher to have recovered its self-respect as a result of the Falklands war. All right, but how do we keep it, when we cannot defend the Falklands in the long run, and refuse to negotiate with the Argentines on sovereignty? The Labour Party, for its part, proposing to overturn 30 years of British defence policy by espousing unilateral nuclear disarmament, and 20 years of British foreign policy by coming out of the EEC.

Of these issues, disarmament has had a reasonable airing - and thanks to Labour's extraordinary lethargy, it has been a very effective Conservative weapon. (Why on earth has Labour not counter-attacked on cruise missiles, which the

opinion polls show make people just as uneasy as unilateralism does?) But what has become of the other foreign issues I have mentioned, of which are actually more important than the marginal question of whether Britain keeps its bomb?

Let us examine first the electoral significance of world economic issues - for which Mrs Thatcher's excursion to Williamsburg might, one would have thought, have provided some ammunition. The Conservatives seem to have been in a suicidal haze from the outset. At first, we were told that the Prime Minister could not conceivably be expected to go to the summit. It would be like telling the Duke of Wellington to leave for London in the middle of the Battle of Waterloo. Then, the trip was suddenly supposed to be the biggest possible electoral asset. Mrs Thatcher, like Julius Caesar, would "bestride the narrow world like a Colossus", or would at least be seen taking tea with President Reagan, and the amazement and admiration of the electorate would clinch her case.

All rubbish. The Prime Minister had no possible strategies in relation to the summit. Either she could go and make it into a real event, which would have entailed backing President Mitterrand in trying to produce a coordinated economic revival in the West. Alternatively, if she felt ideologically constrained to avoid doing anything so visionary, then it was clear that nothing of any importance was going to occur at Williamsburg, and she could have stayed at home and made a virtue of her devotion to the task in hand.

She did neither. She gained a little mild publicity and an endorsement of her momentary posture, but the sense that nobody actually

agreed on any alternatives, but at the risk of being seen fiddling with the other members of an amateur band while the rest of the world was picking over the blackened ruins of its industrial framework. The Labour Party's credibility is now so low that it has been incapable of taking advantage of this opening - but Mrs Thatcher didn't know that when she made her plans. She is, once again, a lucky woman.

Another example is the European Community issue. Here we have a question on which the country is admittedly split, but on which the Labour Party clearly has a demented policy in which half its leadership does not believe. The Conservative leaders have certainly struck their opponents with the "lost jobs" part of the argument, but only as a way of cutting off the issue from more general debate. They are apparently terrified to open up the wider political arguments for remaining in the EEC, partly for fear of splitting their own vote and partly, perhaps, because they do not really have a gut belief in them themselves. Norman Tebbit, Michael Heseltine and Mrs Thatcher herself have distinctly mixed feelings on the subject of Europe and are therefore incapable of seizing the opportunity Labour offers.

Or take the Falklands. The Conservative manifesto is full of half-suppressed ginger and was, indeed, launched to the canned refrain of "Jerusalem", "Land of Hope and Glory", and "Rule Britannia". But it is modest about the Falklands war, one suspects, because the Conservative leadership sense that their voters have closed their books on the episode and, if aroused to further thought, will start to ask awkward questions. The

Labour Party, by contrast, started off in its manifesto by attempting to make some electoral capital of its own out of the war, by suggesting that Mrs Thatcher's Fortress Falklands policy is imposing an intolerable burden on the British people. But they, too, have pussy-footed around the issue during the campaign, and the Liberal/SDP Alliance has never mentioned the war from beginning to end.

Taken all in all, these examples amount to a fairly deafening conspiracy of silence about the international dimension of our affairs. It can mean only one thing - that the politicians are frightened to put questions to the voters for fear of getting the wrong answers. Mrs Thatcher's stock in trade is nationalism, but she is not yet convinced that the British people have her stomach for it. Certainly, Labour, in establishment has not, the British people, non-nuclear Fortress Britain, is the proponent of a nationalism that is even more extreme and inward-looking, and it is equally uncertain how the voters will react. As for the Alliance, it is split between fashionable ex-Labour nationalists (mainly SDP and middle-class Euro-pean federalists and unilateralists (mainly Liberal) and dare not press home its points on these matters for fear of coming apart at the seams.

It is perhaps unfair to ask that these confusions be clarified at election time, but it is, none the less, a sad state for a country so desperately dependent on the outside world to be in. One looks in vain among the star-studded cast of politicians arrayed before us in this campaign for single statesman capable of providing the answers.

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# Dashing for wealth in a black market economy

Freetown. Illicit diamond diggers in Sierra Leone were tunnelling away with such energy and persistence that a substantial building collapsed, due to subsidence. It was the local police station.

Though this curious event, combining resourceful if illegal private enterprise and public authority unable or unwilling to control it, occurred a few years ago it remains an excellent illustration of the bizarre nature of Sierra Leone's economy. It also says quite a lot about this West African country's politics.

Countries, unlike individuals or companies, never go bankrupt, because in the last resort the creditors can never seize the debtor nation's assets. But at the moment a number of West African states are near being taken to the cleaners as it is possible to get - nations which are not only running huge and persistent trade deficits and find it difficult to pay their teachers and clerks at the end of the month, but are also obliged to borrow to repay the interest, let alone the principal, on their foreign debt.

Sierra Leone is a classic example. Later this month a group of those gimlet-eyed men from the International Monetary Fund will visit Freetown to look at the books, talk to the government about its intentions, and then decide whether to bail the country out.

They face a difficult and puzzling task. For a start the national accounts are incomplete and some of the figures are contradictory; the facts cannot definitely be established because the government's central statistical computer went on the blink a few months ago and has not yet been fixed. But the real problem is that Sierra Leone, like many African countries, does not really have one economy: it has two.

The first - the one that appears in the official figures - is in terrible shape. The "pipeline" of unpaid commercial debt for imports and dividend remittances is now 26 months and probably totals 150m leones.

The signs of the acute foreign exchange crisis are highly visible: long lines of harassed motorists queue for a tankful of petrol; power cuts are frequent; industries are at a standstill or work at a fraction of capacity because of a lack of essential imports.



But in the local markets and supermarkets you can still buy an astonishing range of goods ranging from reasonably priced carats to textiles and cosmetics - and that's where the "second economy" takes over.

One of the main causes of Sierra Leone's economic difficulties has been the huge rise in oil prices over the past decade and a fall in the price of diamonds, which traditionally make up around half the country's export earnings. Another is corruption - or "dash" as it is known in West Africa - which permeates the whole country.

This is encouraged by the unrealistically low wages paid to public servants, but obviously resentment is caused at a time of shortages when leading figures in the regime build themselves lavish houses which they could never have afforded from their official salaries.

After violent elections in this one-party state a year ago, President Siaka Stevens appointed a new government in which the Finance Ministry went to Mr. Salia Jusu-Sheriff. A former leader of a now defunct opposition party, this forceful accountant, perceived by many as the regime's "Mr. Clean", has been trying to knock some sort of sense into the government's finances - for example stopping salaries being paid to non-existent civil servants and halting pension payments to people long since dead. But as one businessman put it to me: "He's just one man against a whole system, and we can't expect miracles".

Mr. Jusu-Sheriff has also reopened talks with the IMF against an inauspicious historical background. In July 1981 the IMF suspended a three-year extended credit facility



Siaka Stevens: presiding over a country with three exchange rates

only three months after it had been put into effect because the government could not keep to the conditions.

Under IMF prompting he introduced at the beginning of this year an ingenious two-tier exchange rate system. Under this the official quoted rate remains unchanged at 2.2 leones to the pound sterling; the rate is used to pay for essential imports of oil, wheat, school textbooks and debt servicing.

In theory the second, "commercial" quoted rate was to be fixed purely by the laws of supply and demand. Would-be importers would tender at auctions every three weeks and the rate would be what people were prepared to pay for the dollars the Central Bank had on offer.

But this has been only a partial success. The Central Bank has not allowed the commercial rate to soar, probably from fears of the effects on domestic inflation.

One big trader told me that he had consistently tendered at well above the successful striking rate but had received only a small percentage of the foreign exchange he needed to run his business.

As a result, Sierra Leone now has three exchange rates: the official (2.2 leones to the pound); commercial (around 3.8) and black market (more than 4 leones).

"From a foreign exchange point of view the government is living from day to day", one banking official said. Another said the government has at times resorted to borrowing foreign exchange held by wealthy individuals, many of them Lebanese, who control much of the country's business.

One of Sierra Leone's major misfortunes is that its immediate southern neighbour, Liberia, uses

the US dollar as its currency. The lure of this easily accessible hard currency explains in large measure the huge inflow of Sierra Leone's "second economy", which consists of smuggling and black marketing on a gigantic scale. It is widely believed that up to half the country's diamond production may cross illegally into Liberia and elsewhere.

But the damage to the economy is not confined to diamonds. Because of inadequate producer prices paid to farmers, agricultural products also vanish across the frontier. This was demonstrated earlier this year when one of Freetown's newspapers, which by African standards are remarkably outspoken, printed rumours, which proved to be untrue, that Liberia's president, Samuel Doe, had poisoned his wife.

The enraged Liberian leader demanded a government apology, threatened to revive a claim to Sierra Leonean territory and sealed the border with his army.

A diplomatic solution was eventually found, but, intriguingly, during the three weeks that the border was sealed the price of palm oil and several other basic commodities fell in Sierra Leone by up to 50 per cent.

There is also considerable smuggling with the other neighbour, Guinea. The Guineans have an almost worthless currency, but they drive their cattle over the frontier and return with consumer goods and petrol.

In Samu chiefdom in northern Sierra Leone there is a football pitch with one of the goals in Sierra Leone and the other in Guinea. It is hardly surprising that when the two countries' respective taxmen do their rounds in the area there are massive offshades.

Despite the maladministration, much publicised by the local press, and the depressing official financial figures, the economic mood here is not one of despair.

The fall in oil prices and the rise of up to 20 per cent in the price of non-oil commodities over the past six months puts some perspective on the economic prognosis. Particularly encouraging is the strengthening of the diamond market, as well as progress in moves to harness the country's hydroelectric potential.

Even a modest world economic recovery would immediately help the profitability of the country's other mineral exports, gold, bauxite, iron ore and rutile.

Most important of all, in a continent much of which is suffering from drought, Sierra Leone's rains have just started to come and plentifully. And Africa is a continent where, for millions of people, rain is much more important than anything their Mercedes-driving ministers or men from the IMF may say or do.

Godfrey Morrison

# Scares? Just look at the scars

JUNE 2 83

Barbara Castle

A new mood has entered Labour's campaign. Henceforth the party is going into the attack with no holds barred. Norman Tebbit has described the new strategy as due to panic. A better word would be anger.

So far the dominant mood in the party has been one of bewilderment. It is not only astonishing that so many people cannot see what is in store for them if Mrs Thatcher is returned, it is also that her massive lead in the polls does not tally with the response Labour is getting from voters on the doorstep.

I have done a good bit of touring around in the past two weeks and the answer I have got time and again has been a vehement: "Of course I am voting Labour. Get that woman out."

The mood has been far more bitterly hostile to Conservative policies than it was in 1979. After all, people have had a taste of what they mean.

Labour's task now is to hammer home in merciless detail what sort of Britain we will be living in by 1989 if Mrs Thatcher is given the chance to complete her grand design.

To be fair she has never hidden the fact that she wants to put into reverse the whole trend of economic and social policy since the war. Now she is demanding the chance to finish the job, with a massive majority to do it thoroughly.

So if there is one central truth in this campaign it is that the survival of the welfare state is incompatible with Mrs Thatcher's grand design. It must be dismantled if she is to impose the new "values" she talks about.

But when it comes to selling the details of what is involved to the electorate her nerve fails and she puts up Mr Norman Tebbit to complain of "scares".

But Labour's warnings are not scares, they are prophecies - just as our warnings about VAT and prescription charges were proved to be prophecies, not scares, in 1979.

So Mrs Thatcher's solemn protestation that she has "no intention of dismantling the NHS" cannot be believed. We remember that she asserted just as solemnly in 1979 we have no intention to raise charges.

It is no accident that all the secret Government documents now coming to light - such as the draft circular to regional health authority chairmen on the private sector and the NHS - are concerned with ways

of handing the present public provision of services to private companies. In this case private nursing homes are to be paid to take elderly patients from the NHS.

What effect that would have on the quality of service can be imagined since the whole idea would be to save money. Health authorities have already found that the catering, laundry and other hospital services they have been forced to privatise have deteriorated.

But this privatisation mania is to be extended. The Government cannot simply shrug off the recent catalogue of Cabinet documents all seeking the same aim: to cut state provision of social services and force us all to make private provision for every social need: education, health and even unemployment benefits.

Trade unions are to be further weakened and protective legislation whittled down. It all fits in to a coherent pattern of a "stand on your own feet and God help you if you fail" society.

And I could add a few of my own prophecies. I predict, for instance, that another Thatcher government would reduce the scope and generosity (particularly to women) of the earnings-related pension of the Labour government passed in 1976. It certainly went much further than the Tory opposition wanted, as I know because I was the Secretary of State who had to get it through parliament.

I predict, too, that under a Thatcher government VAT would be put on food. At present Britain and Ireland are the only two countries in the European Community which zero rate food and some other essentials. This annoys the European Commission which is insisting that we should harmonize. As a good European Mrs Thatcher is not likely to resist the pressure for very long, particularly as VAT would bring in welcome extra revenue.

Why should Mrs Thatcher be annoyed by these so-called scares? She should glory in the proof they give that under her we would gallop back to that Victorian England she holds out to us as the Promised Land.

The author is Labour MEP for Greater Manchester, North.

Tomorrow: John Pardo

Ronald Butt

# From radical chic to radical shriek

The rage, frustration and above all the bewilderment of the radical establishment founded in the 1960s, is approaching boiling point. The unthinkable is happening. Mrs Thatcher, with a set of convictions that is anathematised by the hitherto dominant opinion-formers, is carrying all before her. Worse, there is not even any guile in her way of doing it.

Mrs Thatcher's personal convictions and instincts are probably far more clearly and widely understood than any other prime minister's since Churchill. People know what she is like and what she would like to do - and, knowing this, the majority seems about to give her another term of office.

If they do, it will confirm that she has the support of millions of working-class people, some of whom are out of work, and of citizens who want a return to a more responsible society and are disillusioned with the prevailing establishment's pretences about what the state can do for them. They would like a more orderly society, both economically and socially: they want their earnings and savings to be able to go about in safety and also have their country adequately defended.

On the other hand, they do not want the welfare services run down and do not believe that Mrs Thatcher would attempt to dismantle them, if only because she is no fool and would understand that she would stand no chance of a third term if she did.

This support for Mrs Thatcher is anathema to the broad church that calls itself radical. It is a rejection of almost every attitude which they had thought they had schooled the people to accept as the given norm - and to which most politicians had previously felt obliged to conform.

So desperation grows. In the Labour Party it takes the form of wild accusations against the Tories that carry no conviction. Among the less aligned radicals, the cry goes up: "Vote for the Alliance so as to stop Mrs Thatcher having a landslide of hangers and floggers who would give her dangerous power." Instinctively, the older (as we must now call it) radical establishment hates her and what she stands for - above all her concern for achievement. So, because she believes in personal responsibility, they pretend she stands for devil-take-the-hindmost; that she is hard and without understanding.

I have not seen the instincts of the Sneeze of the so-called radical establishment more nastily expressed than in a letter to *The Guardian* by Christopher Driver, a former writer on religious affairs who became editor of the *Good Food Guide*, a man who is the epitome of the non-conformist conscience crossed with the permissive society. Writing apparently from the Alliance standpoint, he does not mention Mrs Thatcher by name, but talks simply of the Lady Macbeth who may get a landslide.

"Yes," his letter began, "she is headstrong, profligate with other

people's money in her own dubious causes, a cheapener of every thought she touches and the nearest female equivalent to Horatio Bottomley that we are ever likely to see. Just the person to be given a nuclear bomblet to play with."

I mention this disagreeable person only because he says more harshly what many more of his school think and hint covertly. His letter also makes clear his contempt for Mrs Thatcher. But (as the harder left more realistically recognises) Mrs Thatcher has genuinely popular support. If people vote for her free society, it is because they want it.

If it were only the Drivers who were in danger of bursting an intellectual blood vessel it would matter little. It is more worrying when responsible people who count as Tories begin to sing in counterpoint. Thus Mr Peregrine Wofsthorne (for whom I do have the regard of friendship) is worried that if Mr Pym is not in Mrs Thatcher's next Cabinet, there will be no old Etonians there. He tells the readers of the *Sunday Telegraph* that the old ruling classes will be "eliminated from the corridors of power" and a new type of Tory will "flood into the House of Commons on Mrs Thatcher's coat-tails" - people as inferior to a true Tory as a Trot is to a real socialist.

Though he thinks the Thatcher counter-revolution has saved Conservatism in the short term, he mourns the loss of the knights of the shires with their noble obligations. Their civilized notion of public service, he is horrified to find, Mrs Thatcher should hand back the problem of unemployment to the people and their efforts - "as if any true Tory believed in the people".

What utter nonsense! Mr Wofsthorne should ask himself why the new Tories took over. The new men took over because the old Tories had failed - preferring to try to buy their way out of power by bread-and-circuses inflation which harmed the poor much more than the rich and the landed. The compassion of the landowning "wets" whom Mr Wofsthorne celebrates was often the compassion of the soup kitchen. That is why they tried to undermine the Prime Minister's policies and sought dangerous spending programmes to stave off (as they thought) electoral defeat.

Yet despite Mrs Thatcher's policies, defeat is not coming and I think one reason is that many voters reckon they would get more realistic compassion from the Tebbits, who know how they live, than from the old Etonians. The new Tories are not going to throw their power away by grinding the faces of the poor; even if they were villains they would not be such fools. I hope that when their heirs have had a generation or two at Eton, the Wofsthornes will be reassured. Meanwhile, a little less reassurance about the hard-faced Thatchers and Tebbits would accord better with the reality which is that the voters seem to think differently and look like saying so on June 9.

Richard North





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## RIGHT, NOT NEED, TO KNOW

Secrecy is built into the calcium of a British policy-maker's bones. It is a physiological disorder which afflicts ministers and civil servants alike. Changing the country's culture of confidentiality is a daunting task. The Labour Party and the Alliance are pledged to try. Mrs Margaret Thatcher is not. Complaints can be heard from her ministers that she does not believe in open government for the Cabinet let alone for the public or the press.

The British genius for administrative secrecy is honoured by many monuments. Trappist government is sustained by four Official Secrets Acts, and immensely tight rules for politicians in office enshrined in a secret document, *Questions of Procedure for Ministers*, which is passed like a Holy Grail to each new Secretary of State.

As if those defences were inadequate, connoisseurs of British secrecy find its most perfect expression in a bulky, obscure, yet highly important volume, *Estacode*, the Civil Service bible of "do's and don'ts". Paragraph 9904 goes to the heart of the matter. It is an offence to disclose any information, whether classified or not, unless specific authorisation has been granted. The rule applies not just during an official's career but for the remainder of his life.

Other western societies order things differently. In the United States, most of western Europe and in Commonwealth countries like Canada, Australia and New Zealand, whose systems of government are built on the Westminster-Whitehall model, the onus of proof is reversed. Openness is the norm. Specific reasons must be shown for the preservation of confidentiality.

For Whitehall to step in line with Ottawa, Canberra and Wellington, the habits of a lifetime would have to be shed

from the Cabinet Office downwards. Labour and the Alliance believe that nothing less than shock therapy in the shape of a freedom of information act policed by the courts will dent the tradition of centuries. Both are pledged to legislate for openness. The right to know is not one of the liberties included in the Tory manifesto's chapter on "Law, Democracy and the Citizen".

At first glance, the gap between the Thatcher vision of "good government" and that of Labour and the Alliance seems unbridgeable. But is it? As an initial step towards an enhanced supply of official information and the opportunity for a better informed electorate, the Parliamentary Food offers distinct possibilities. The Conservative manifesto implicitly acknowledges this. It claims, with justification, that the first Thatcher administration has "modernised the select committees to improve Parliament's ability to keep a check on the actions of the Executive". The document promises the Conservatives will continue to pursue "sensible, carefully considered reforms where they are of practical value".

So why not establish a new, all-party Select Committee on Official Information to work alongside the fourteen successfully commissioned to monitor Whitehall departments in 1979? The Government could publish a code of practice delineating areas that must remain closed - intelligence, security, some transactions with foreign powers, details of weapons design and performance, economic information given to Whitehall in confidence by companies, current Cabinet minutes and memoranda - while declaring open season on the rest. The select committee would act as a spur and a monitor avoiding the

need to involve the judiciary or the Ombudsman.

Such a prospectus is not likely to exert an instant appeal for its Prime Minister, and few of her predecessors have remained more communicative for long. It could appear a charter for "unhelpful" people - backbench MPs of the Dalyell school, the more irritating kind of journalist, the less responsible sort of pressure group, concerned with the subversion of civil administration or the organising of campaigns to preempt policies still in formulation.

It is a view that deserves a mite of sympathy. Running Britain through a vast bureaucracy in the 1980s is not easy. It is a mole catcher's nightmare. Even the most strong-willed of prime ministers can, on occasion, feel powerless to influence events before they acquire unimpeachable momentum. And, in the words of a constitutionalist and public servant whom she knows, trusts and admires:

"Knowledge is power. It is important to recognize that the issue of open government is about power, political power, a shift in power, its redistribution."

Lord Franks, who delivered that appraisal to an audience of senior civil servants in November 1978 when freedom of information was a very live issue in the last months of the Callaghan administration, also offered his prescription. It was for a reform that went with the grain of the British constitution. Keep the judges and the Ombudsman away from the issue, said Lord Franks. Parliament is the institution for this. Let there be a select committee on official information. Mrs Thatcher had reason in the recent past to be grateful for the judgment of Lord Franks. She should heed him on open government.

## TOUJOURS L'ALLIANCE

It is hardly surprising that President Mitterrand is not Moscow's favourite Western leader. Of the eight heads of state or government who attended the Williamsburg summit last weekend and put their names to the statement on arms control, he is the one singled out for abuse by *Pravda*. That is not because he is necessarily more anti-Soviet than the other seven, but rather because, under his predecessors, Moscow had come to rely on France being the odd man out at such gatherings. M. Mitterrand has failed to live up to the Soviet idea of what a French head of state should be.

In part, therefore, *Pravda's* attack on him yesterday can be read as an outburst of *chagrin d'amour*. But it is unlikely to be just that. Nothing is published in *Pravda* without due deliberation, without having an object in view.

If the Soviet leaders think it worth hammering away at M. Mitterrand, it is no doubt because they regard him as vulnerable. Not that he is likely to change his mind, but that

there is a chance of stirring up controversy in France about the wisdom and the extent of his Atlanticism. They know that, while M. Mitterrand is indeed a staunch ally of the United States on defence issues, on many other issues there are still very serious differences between Paris and Washington.

France is trying to blame the United States for some of her (in fact mainly home-grown) economic troubles. France's Socialist government, with its seasoning of Communist ministers, remains slightly suspect in Washington's eyes. France is a troublesome critic of American foreign policy, especially in Latin America. And France remains deeply suspicious of any American attempt to extend the role of NATO, whether functionally (into the economic sphere) or geographically (into the Middle East or the Third World). Any hint that the annual economic summit might be institutionalized into a kind of Western Security Council meets with immediate French resistance, and the "new Atlantic Charter" once proposed

by Dr Henry Kissinger remains a powerful French bogey.

Indeed, French prickliness on this score all but stopped the Williamsburg statement on arms control from seeing the light, as the Russians are well aware, and no sooner had the text been made public than M. Chéysson felt obliged to reiterate France's refusal to accept any extension of the Atlantic alliance.

So when they accuse M. Mitterrand of selling out to NATO (or words to that effect), the Soviet leaders know that they are touching on a raw nerve. Yet when *Pravda* asks, as if making a novel and damning accusation, "whether France, although it has pulled out of NATO's military wing, has ever ceased to be a member of the Atlantic alliance or renounced its commitments as an ally", it is really only revealing the depths of misunderstanding aroused by de Gaulle's policies, in Moscow as elsewhere. For in reality the answer to that question has never been in doubt. France can be a very awkward ally, but she remains an ally for all that.

## PENSION FUND POLITICS

The Labour manifesto states that one of the ways in which it will finance its massive programme is to channel private savings into what a Labour government would believe were deserving areas of investment. "There is no shortage of savings in the country available for borrowing today. Indeed vast amounts of British money are flowing into overseas investment," it says. That overseas investment would be stopped by immediate exchange control. Once contained within the United Kingdom, capital would then be directed under the authority of the whole apparatus in planning set out in the manifesto. The manifesto itself makes clear in respect of the clearing banks that if they did not "co-operate fully" in this process a Labour government would stand ready to "take one or more of them into public ownership".

When Mr Foot was questioned about this on television he made it quite clear that such a fate would indeed befall financial institutions whose investment policies did not come into line with the ideas and directions of his government. That determination to control the direction of private investment, added to the admission that private savings would be exploited to fulfil the government's investment plans, immediately raises the question of pension funds.

Hitherto occupational pension funds have been run entirely for the benefit of the pensioners who have contributed to them. A shareholder who holds shares in a company threatened by such governmental action as that postulated by Mr Foot can, after all, switch his investment out of

that company if he feels its investment policies are being distorted for political reasons rather than the furtherance of the profit motive. But the same flexibility is not the privilege of a pensioner. What happens to pensioners and their pension expectations, when their funds are directed in accordance with ministerial taste? The answer given in the Labour manifesto is that a Labour government would introduce a new Pension Scheme Act to strengthen members' rights, clarify the role of trustees and give members a right to equal representation - but only through their trade unions - on controlling bodies of each scheme.

Fortunately a working model of a pension fund so influenced by trade union trustees already exists. It is the Mineworkers Pension Fund. Since Mr Scargill became leader of the NUM he and his union colleagues on the board of trustees have given vivid proof of what fate awaits all occupational pension funds under a Labour government. There will be a danger that political factors in the minds of trade union leaders will utterly pre-judge the investment policies of pension funds, regardless of the fact that while the trade union leaders can afford to indulge their political prejudices because they do not stand to benefit from the pension scheme, those people whom they purport to represent will be the losers.

The NCB/Mineworkers Pension Fund has a board of trustees which is split equally between representatives of management and of the NUM. The chairman has no casting vote. So provided

that Messrs Scargill, McGahey, Daly and their other union colleagues stick together they can block any investment policy and ultimately create havoc in the management of the funds.

That is what has occurred in the last two years. Mr Scargill and his friends have refused to endorse the new investment plan for the fund, although it has received the approval of the management committee and the advisory panel on NCB pension fund investment. Mr Scargill decided that all investment in oil shares and any other energy source should be sold. Secondly he sought to veto investment both in overseas real estate and in any industrial enterprise overseas.

The trade unionists do not have the power to place investment. Perhaps that is just as well since they might feel compelled to put their members' pensions at the risk of things like the Meriden Co-Operative, or British Leyland. But they do have the power to prevent funds managers from investing their resources in a dynamic economic environment where the actuarial necessities of pension liabilities require frequent changes in investment plans.

The Mineworkers Pension Fund will thus suffer from the paralysis which Mr Scargill has inflicted on it for purposes which have more to do with his general political philosophy than the particular wellbeing of miners' pensions. If that is to be one of the ways the Labour Party mobilizes funds for its emergency programme it can have no attraction for occupational pensioners.

## European model for Irish unity

From Sir John Biggs-Davison, Conservative candidate for Epping Forest

Sir, The New Ireland Forum is indeed "Dublin Castle in the air" (your second leader of today). For it presumes to include Northern Ireland with none of its parties present but the Social Democratic and Labour Party whose Dublin links helped destroy the Sunningdale constitution.

Unionist "distrust" will not be allayed by turning the Republic into a more permissive society. Such endeavours as Dr Garret FitzGerald's "crusade" have ignored, or underestimated, the small "U" of Northern Ireland, and, according to successive opinion polls, something under half the Northern Catholics. Devolution from Dublin, instead of London, will not do.

"United Ireland" is not one of what about "United Ireland"? Could not common interests be furthered and nationalist frustration eased within a "Benelux" or "Nordic Union" of these islands, formed without prejudice, as in other European groups, to the sovereignty of the Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland? Their relations, styled "unique", are already closer than those of Commonwealth or Community.

I remain, sir, your most obedient servant, JOHN BIGGS-DAVISON, Lambourne Road, Chigwell Row, Essex, May 30.

## Labour and EEC

From Professor A.A. Dashwood

Sir, It is important to be clear about the legal implications of the Labour Party's proposal to rejoin the European Communities Act 1972 as soon as possible after gaining power. The object of repealing the Act would be to deprive Community law of its direct effect in the United Kingdom and its primacy over conflicting national law. The writ of the European Court of Justice would cease to run here and our own courts would no longer be able to give effect to the rights that Community law confers on individuals.

By thus repudiating the legal order of the Communities, the United Kingdom would put itself beyond the protection of that order. Even supposing that the other member states were willing to negotiate a new relationship with us, they would be under no obligation to maintain the status quo pending the outcome of the negotiations. The very day that the European Communities Act ceased to apply, customs barriers could be erected against British exports.

Our former partners might, of course, forgo the negotiating advantage that such action would give them. But a party that proposes to throw away all legal guarantees and rely on the goodwill (or even the good sense) of others is reckless indeed.

Yours faithfully, A. A. DASHWOOD, Dingley Cottage, 40 Marlborough Road, Dingley, Nr Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

## A musician's plea

From Professor Norman Beedie

Sir, Shortage of opera singers? To judge from some of the performances presented at our "centres of excellence" one would be inclined to agree. But look elsewhere and one finds an abundance of vocal talent eagerly awaiting the opportunity to perform and therefore to develop.

Sir Colin Davis suggests (report, May 18) that the "youth is fashionable" factor works against the long-term development of voices, which I am sure is perfectly true. I hope that, as musical director of the Royal Opera House, he is prepared to change this attitude. This situation is not exclusive to the vocal world, however.

There are many excellent solo instrumentalists who are under-used professionally because they are not considered "fashionable". What forces dictate this fashion?

The answer to this situation is two-fold. Firstly, musicians must instigate performances wherever, and whenever possible - not an easy task with opera, but it has been done successfully. This gives invaluable experience to the musician and can bring music to a completely new audience.

Secondly, the artistic directors of our orchestras and opera companies must make a policy decision to use to a far greater extent than at present, the many excellent British musicians who can stand equal to the fashionable international names.

Yours faithfully, NORMAN BEEDIE, 54 Alexandra Park Road, N10, May 23.

## Improving human rights

From Baillie Malcolm K. Savidge

Sir, As this council's representative at the European Convention on Nuclear Disarmament, I feel that your editorial on it ("Tyranny begins at home", May 17) draws conclusions strangely at variance with the message both of the Convention and of the East European "dissident" groups which sent us their greetings. Undoubtedly an intimate inter-relationship was seen between disarmament and the suppression of human rights in the Warsaw pact countries; but this was scarcely, as implied in your leader, that the latter provided an excuse for the United States adopting an obdurate or obstructive attitude at the Geneva talks.

Such a stance would be manifestly hypocritical, when the Reagan

## 'Gentlemen's agreement' still binding

From Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir William Dickson

Sir, Many of your readers will have watched a television documentary entitled *A Matter for Joint Decision* which appeared on BBC 2 at 7.15 pm on May 29. It dealt with the stationing of cruise missiles in this country and the control of their use.

Since the programme raised some doubts about the American respect for the agreement reached between Mr Attlee and President Truman in 1951, which was confirmed in a joint communiqué by Mr Churchill and President Truman later I would like to record some points which are relevant to this vital issue.

I was concerned because in 1951/52 I was the Member of Air Council responsible for working out an agreement with General Leon Johnson of the United States Air Force to give effect to the Attlee/Truman agreement.

Many will have forgotten how this agreement was made. It was not imposed on us by the Americans. It involved, it arose because our two Governments and our partners in NATO became greatly concerned about Soviet expansionist policies and saw the need to strengthen the deterrent to further Soviet adventures. The agreement lay in the American provision of the additional air power required and the British provision of the bases. It was an agreement based on mutual trust between two nations having a special relationship.

The agreement involved the establishment of some 39 bases for the American Air Force and the accommodation of several thousands of American airmen here in this country in peacetime. It had to cover all the problems involved in the operation of the American units, their maintenance and defence and in fitting them into the life of the country.

Two things made such a difficult undertaking possible. One was that the British public perceived the Soviet threat to their freedom and

endorsed the agreement. The other was the special relationship which existed and has always existed between the Royal Air Force and the United States Air Force.

It was agreed between us that the only way of making this undertaking work was to integrate the United States Air Force as closely as possible into the Royal Air Force structure. The bases were, for example, to remain RAF stations and the US units were to be lodged units on those stations. For the support of these bases the USAF Command in the United Kingdom would have a relationship with the Air Ministry similar to that of the RAF Commands.

It was in every way a "Gentlemen's Agreement". Costs were to be shared and we gave them free use of our airfields, our personnel and of all services. And they were of course dependent on us for their air defence, the security of their bases, including the security of their nuclear weapons.

The "Gentlemen's Agreement" has worked in perfect harmony for 32 years thanks to the goodwill and understanding on both sides and especially to the endeavours of all US commanders and their airmen in this country.

Apart from the understanding about joint decision making which has satisfied the heads of all governments of both our nations since 1951 it is inconceivable that our American friends and allies, bound and integrated so closely with us in this country, and so dependent on us for their maintenance and security, would ever initiate nuclear war from our joint bases without our agreement.

Yours faithfully, W. F. DICKSON, Fording House, Cold Ash, Newbury, Berkshire, May 31.

## Problems in buying manifestos

From Mr Alan L. Thomas

Sir, Mr Charles Rowlett in your issue today (letter, May 28) suggests that commercial outlets may be subject to bias in their selling of party manifestos. You may therefore be interested to learn of our own recent experience.

When the election was announced we began to receive enquiries from our customers for the various manifestos. Our first reaction was to direct them to the offices of the relevant party but this was not practical for the reasons given by Mr Rowlett. So to satisfy an obvious market demand, and in the interests of impartiality, we telephoned the headquarters of the main parties. Conservatives (25p) and Labour (60p) responded immediately.

In our political naivety we assumed that the Liberals and SDP were separate organizations and contacted both. The Liberals (50p) requested prepayment and the SDP quoted £1.00 per copy. We now know that both publish under a communal imprint called the Alliance. Plaid Cymru and the Scottish Nationalists (£1.00 each per copy) delivered promptly although the latter would not sell on commercial terms. We have telephoned the Communist Party several times but nobody answers.

Yours sincerely, ALAN L. THOMAS, Manager, University Bookshop, Bailrigg, Lancaster, May 28.

From Mr Alan Midgley

Sir, The Conservative victory at the polls to which Mr Arthur Scargill refers (your leader "Enemies of liberty" May 16) is likely to result from at least 55 per cent of the electorate voting against the Conservative Party.

As the National Union of Miners

## Lush parking

From Mrs Olga Lloyd

Sir, In Morocco beautiful wild flowers grow in their varied thousands for miles right along the edge of the tarmac. The country roads are only just wide enough for two vehicles and the exhaust fumes are heavy but the flowers flourish.

In this country flowers are not given much chance to flourish along the highways because we are so dotty about keeping the verges tidy. I have seen a council worker cutting down flowers on a Saturday so presumably he was working overtime to get on with the job and leave the verges neat and monotonous.

Yours faithfully, OLGA LLOYD, Garden House, 141a Ashby Road, Burton upon Trent, Staffordshire.

## Tales of Maclean

From Sir David Hunt

Sir, Mr Roy Medvedev in your issue of today reports a story that Maclean

told him about the latter's part in the crisis of the Korean war. Maclean was not a truthful man and the story is evidently false. The false dates he gives are sufficient to refute it. The Chinese attack on MacArthur's forces came before, not after, Attlee's journey to Washington and therefore before he and Truman had confirmed their decision against the use of nuclear weapons. The attack was on November 24, 1950. Attlee arrived in Washington on December 3.

He also seems to have been told by Maclean that he had gone to Washington with Attlee on the occasion. I was one of those who accompanied Attlee, being then a Private Secretary at No 10. I do not remember Maclean being with us; I am sure Attlee had no direct dealings with him.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, DAVID HUNT, The Athenaeum, Pall Mall, SW1 5ER, May 31.

should recognise that since any major conflict would probably result in the destruction of both their civilisations, and possibly result in human extinction, they should approach negotiations not as adversaries but as those who share a common interest in their mutual security.

The recurrent theme in the messages from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland and Russia was that by reducing tension between East and West, and promoting détente, disarmament and international contact, we would help them in their peaceful struggle to improve human rights within their own countries.

Yours faithfully, MALCOLM K. SAVIDGE, Aberdeen City Council, Town House, Aberdeen.

## General Belgrano: the post-mortem

From Mr Michael Nicholson

Sir, Re the sinking of the General Belgrano. For the record: in a briefing aboard HMS Hermes, the then Task Force Commander, Admiral Sandy Woodward, told me and other correspondents and I quote from my notes at the time: "There's a cruiser nosing around the TEZ (Total Exclusion Zone) and I'm going to bloody its nose".

This briefing took place three days before the Belgrano was chased and sunk by HMS Conqueror.

On a more general point, rather pertinent and worth repeating in this rights and wrongs post-mortem. We had upwards of 10,000 soldiers at sea at that time. Very few of them had ever spent any time on ships, certainly none in the kind of seas we were experiencing then in the South Atlantic. We were approaching winter and they were being tossed around in ships that were badly equipped to carry them. It was as the weather worsened there had to be a limit to how long we could stay before it was necessary to return to Ascension Island to recover. The longer the men were kept at sea the less their fighting effectiveness. It was simply a matter of time and it was not with us. We knew it. And so must Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander-in-Chief, have advised the Prime Minister.

The Junta were well aware of it too and who is to say that General Galtieri wasn't simply using Mr Haig, Costa Mendes and the Peruvians tactically? Because, for the Task Force to have turned back to Ascension to recuperate while the various peace plans were examined, would most certainly have taken the momentum out of the British military initiative and British public support.

The Prime Minister surely would not have risked that? Yours faithfully, MICHAEL NICHOLSON, 21 Bushwood Road, Kew, Surrey, May 31.

## Backs to the walls

From Mr F. H. Thompson

Sir, I have always been fond, though I cannot remember the source, of that definition of the fine arts which concludes: "... and ornamental pastry-making, of which architecture is a minor branch." It came to mind with your architecture correspondent's analysis of 66 St James's Street (May 2), critically ambivalent but ending: "... a more than usually forceful representative of modern architecture in London and carried through with some panache." Nobody seems to have been provoked enough to reply, so may I express dissent?

St James's Street is very mixed in character but has the merit of width, which allows the passer by to look at the buildings which flank it. They range from good, through middling, to bad, but they blend into a reasonable mix, apart from No 66. "Ah", the architects will say, "give it time and you will grow to accept it, even if it isn't very good architecture."

I wonder, particularly when the Economist building opposite is such a shining example of modernity allied with taste. No 66 is vulgar and thick with always seen as. Was the architect trying to shock the members of Boodle's? If so, he is not having much success as the occupants all seem to have their backs to No 66 when I pass.

Yours faithfully, F. H. THOMPSON, Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, W1, May 11.

Sudan, Zaire and Zambia are only three of the countries mentioned where rats and mice are an important food source. The availability of many other wild animals and plants for food can often make the difference between life and death by starvation for people.

In Ghana, 75 per cent of the population depends largely on traditional sources of protein supply which include caterpillars, maggots, snails, puff adders and the Togo hare. When other food is scarce, crickets and locusts are eaten in Sudan, and in Africa as a whole ticks are "eaten gorged" and "antelope rumen contents" are taken as a beverage.

The report gives many other uses for wildlife, apart from food. Elephant and hippo fat is used as fuel, lion fat for a pomade, and the nest of the penduline tit for a purse. Yours faithfully, JANET BARBER, Head of Conservation, Panda House, 11-13 Ockford Road, Godalming, Surrey, May 28.

## On a clear day

From Mr Alan Franks

Sir, In contrast to Mr Stolberger (May 31) I count myself fortunate these inclement days to be able to see the Rottingdean windmill some 500 yards from my house.

Yours faithfully, ALAN FRANKS, 17 Grand Crescent, Rottingdean, East Sussex, May 31.







## Investment and Finance

City Editor  
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

City Office  
200 Gray's Inn Road  
London WC1X 8EZ  
Telephone 01-837 1234

## STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 704.6 down 7.9  
 FT 100: 82.17 down 0.13  
 Bargains: 19.691  
 Tring Hall USM Index: 168.3 down 0.9  
 Tokyo: 8549.70 down 67.87  
 Hongkong: Hang Seng Index: 923.15 up 4.56  
 New York: Dow Jones Average (latest) 1201.24 up 1.26

## CURRENCIES

**LONDON CLOSE**  
 Sterling \$1.5905 down 1.4 cents  
 Index 87.4 down 0.4  
 DM 4.0550 down 0.0025  
 FF 12.20 up 0.450  
 Yen 381.75 down 2.0  
**DOLLAR**  
 Index 124.8 up 0.8  
 DM 2.5489 up 134 pts  
 Gold \$413 down \$22.50  
**NEW YORK LATEST**  
 Gold \$410.00  
 Sterling \$1.5910

## INTEREST RATES

**Domestic rates:**  
 Base rates 10  
 3 month interbank 10 1/4-10 1/2  
**Euro-currency rates:**  
 3 month dollar 9 1/4-9 1/2  
 3 month DM 5 1/4-5 1/2  
 3 month 14-15  
**ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling**  
 Export Finance Scheme IV  
 Average reference rate for interest period March 2 to April 5, 1983 inclusive: 10.974 per cent

## PRICE CHANGES

Norton Simon £15.875, up £1.815  
 Hollas 31p up 3p  
 Air Mail 318p up 28p  
 Audioline 13p up 1p  
 TACE 40p up 3p  
 W. Jacks 45p up 3p  
 H. Ingram 50p down 6p  
 Wicking P-coat 42p down 5p  
 Rotaprint 9p down 1p  
 Middle White £11.50, down £1.125  
 Hamlinax 33p down 3p  
 Wearwell 55p down 4p

## TODAY

Interims: AE, British Petroleum, Carr's Milling, Habitat/Mothercare (9 months), Hickson Int.  
 Finals: Bechem, Bishop's Grp., Castings, Century Oils, Harrisons and Crosfield, Rowlinson, Trietis, UBM.  
**Economic statistics:** UK official reserves (May), capital issues and redemptions (during May)

## Plan for new US trade ministry

● Reagan Administration officials have announced a proposal for a new department of international trade and industry.  
 The plan, subject to Congress approval would consolidate the trade operations of the Commerce Department and the policy functions of the office of the US Trade Representative in one agency, which would incorporate the economic patent and trade functions.

● The Defence Ministry has selected Plessey Radar's Watchman system as the new air defence surveillance radar for RAF Airfields in Britain and overseas.

● IRAN DEAL: Volvo, the Swedish motor, energy and food group, has signed a deal to deliver about 6,000 heavy trucks to Iran over the next 18 months.

● TIN ACCORD: Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, which produce 73 per cent of the world's tin, will soon sign an agreement to establish the association of tin producing countries, Indonesia's official Antara news agency said yesterday.

● SKYSHIP SALE: Airship Industries, and Placo of Southern Africa, have come to an agreement for the sale of the first Skyship to be delivered to Africa in a £2m deal.

● DANISH ORDER: Myra Beresford and Liz Page, two Derbyshire women who started making French style underwear when they were made redundant, have received a £3,000 contract from Denmark.

● PROFIT SHARING: More than 1,000 employees of Hewlett-Packard received cash profit-sharing cheques totalling almost £400,000, during the last financial year of the company Hewlett-Packard sales for the first half of 1983 were £2,227.7m up 13.1 per cent over the first half of last year.

## WALL STREET

## Shares gain strength

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - The stock market gained strength on moderate turnover yesterday and analysts attributed the turnaround from opening lows to favourable developments on interest rates.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose by more than a point. The Dow Jones transportation average was up a point and quarter paced by the airlines with AMR Corp up 1/4, UAL Inc. up 1/2 and Delta up 1/4.

Treasury securities rebounded in early trading and shortly before noon the Federal Reserve Board confirmed that it was doing repurchase agreements which the market interpreted as easing pressure on interest rates.

On Tuesday, stocks rebounded from their early lows and the pace of trading became light. Market attention was dominated by concern about a \$2.1bn increase in the basic money supply. The Dow Jones industrial average was down about 2.5 points on Tuesday.

## Expansion go-ahead for Aircall

By Bill Johnstone  
Electronics Correspondent

Aircall, the British communications company, has been awarded a 12-year licence to expand its services in mobile radio communication, which will enable it to provide an automatic national service.

According to Aircall director, Mr Walter Stevenson the licence is "something we have been after for 30 years. We are glad that we were awarded it in the last days of this government".

The licence gives the communications company more frequencies to offer services between mobiles by radio. The company will now be able to allow its customers to automatically interconnect with their network instead of an operator's intervention.

The company which last year had a turnover of £15m and a profit of £1m employs about 1500 staff throughout Britain and confidently predicts that the new licence award will allow them to increase their 25,000 customer base and the number of employees by 20 per cent.

Over £2.5m will be spent by the group over the next twelve months in the initial phase of updating its network so that it can maximise the benefits offered by the new licence. The company was last year refused a mobile radio licence using a technique called "cellular radio".

The two licences were awarded to British Telecom/Securicor and another to a consortium headed by Racal.

Aircall recently bought Teledata which is also expected to play an integral part in the new service offered by the company.

According to a statement issued by the company: "Entirely new enhanced services will include pocket radio telephones and data terminals portable two way telecommunications with a range of advanced facilities. These will be available nationwide on Aircall's UHF and VHF radio telecommunications services".

## Prices tumble across the board as rising dollar saps confidence

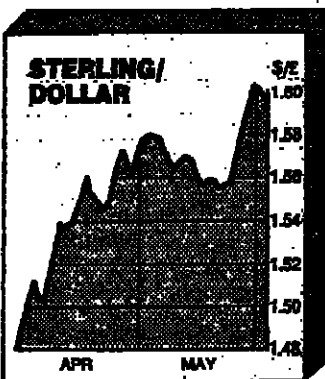
By Michael Prest

Markets took fright yesterday at the sight of the strengthening dollar and attendant expectations of higher interest rates. Prices fell across a broad range of equities, commodities and securities, the collapse being led by gold which tumbled \$23.50 to close in London at \$413 an ounce.

In the London stock market, election nerves and Tuesday's 16-point Wall Street fall caused a sharp reaction from record highs. The Financial Times Index of Britain's top 30 companies dropped 10.7 at its worst to 701.8.

But dealers reported little selling and by the close, the index was down 7.9 points at 701.6. The Dow Jones industrial average opened yesterday at 1,201.24 points at 1,201.24. Stockmarkets in South Africa and Continental Europe retreated.

Gilt were less disturbed, however, the losses among long-dated stocks being only about



Eligible to £½ while short and medium-dated paper escaped unscathed. But in the Eurobond market, always sensitive to interest rates movements, dealers were afraid that higher Eurodollar rates could precipitate a wave of selling.

The price of the World Bank's 10.375 per cent notes due in April 1988 fell 1.38 to 97.5, for example, and heavier losses in percentage terms were

## Gold falls \$23 and leads market retreat

The dollar steamed ahead in currency markets yesterday, supported by firmer dollar interest rates and worries that the Federal Reserve may tighten up on monetary policy, writes Peter Wilson-Smith. The dollar's strength left sterling lower and an early bout of profit-taking also knocked the pound against Continental currencies.

The latest opinion polls showing a narrowing of the Conservatives' lead and a big selling order out of Switzerland were behind the fall. But

recorded among zero-coupon bonds.

On the London Metal Exchange the recent bull market went into reverse. Copper, still a significant indicator of industrial demand and of base metal prices generally, fell. The three months higher grade contract ended £10 down at £1,106.7 a tonne. Lead and tin more or less held their positions, but zinc and aluminium lost ground.

Traders in the bullion market

sterling recovered closing only marginally down against Continental currencies, although 1.4 cents lower at \$1.5905 against the dollar. Its trade-weighted value was 0.4 easier at 87.4.

Concern about US interest rates, which the Williamsburg summit has done nothing to alleviate, dominated the markets. Eurodollar rates firmed by about 1/4 per cent and the key US Fed Funds rate opened 1/4 per cent higher. With the foreign exchange markets far from convinced that US anti-

inflation will take action to lower interest rates or intervene to dampen the dollar, the US currency hit a record high against the French franc and closed 134 points up against the Deutschmark at DM2.5489 after touching DM2.5515.

Rising international interest rates were reflected in action of four major Swiss banks who raised interest rates on customer time deposits by 1/4 per cent to 4 per cent - the second rise in a week.

next floor in the price is \$390-400 an ounce. There is a widespread expectation that in the absence of physical demand for gold the price could fall quickly to this level.

Silver and platinum also succumbed to selling pressure. The three months London silver price declined 50p to 811-815p an ounce. Platinum was fixed in the afternoon at £266.50, a fall of £26 an ounce.

## Linford decision day in takeover battle

By Andrew Cornelius

Linford Holdings has to decide today whether to make an outright bid for the Fitch Lovell food group, or continue to bid separately for the 100 Key Markets stores owned by Fitch.

Until now Linford has had the option of continuing the fight for the Key Markets group by matching the £44.8m offered by Safeway last week, or renewing its takeover ambitions for the whole of the Fitch group, which is capitalized at £104m.

However under Takeover Panel rules Linford has to make a fresh bid for Fitch within three weeks of the publication of the Monopolies Commission's report which gave the go-ahead for a merger between the two companies exactly three weeks ago on May 12.

In the City there has been intense speculation that Linford is preparing to make another bid for the Fitch group. Linford's original offer terms valued the Fitch group at £72m, but since then Fitch has appointed Mr Geoffrey Hankins as the new chief executive, who has outlined plans for restructuring the group around its food manufacturing businesses.

Mr Alec Monk, chairman of Linford, has to make his decision today against the background of further speculation that Safeway is also preparing to launch a takeover bid for either Fitch or Linford.

Safeway yesterday requested details of the Linford share register, after asking for details of the Fitch Lovell register a week ago.

Last night neither Fitch, Safeway, or Linford had any comment to make about their next move. Mr Hankins at Fitch had previously indicated that the next move should come from Linford.



Hankins: restructuring group round food business.

## Banks start card fraud campaign

By Our Financial Staff

The high street banks are stepping up the battle against cheque and credit card fraud, which costs them £35m a year, with a big poster campaign aimed at cutting down card theft.

The banks might soon introduce a more secure type of cheque card. They lost £20m last year on cheque card fraud and have been studying options such as putting customers' photographs on cheque cards or encoding signatures so they cannot be changed.

A decision will be made within a couple of months. "We are close to a decision on a safer card," Mr Jim Parsons, secretary of the Committee of London Clearing Bankers' bank cheque card committee said yesterday.

The banks are spending nearly £200,000 on the poster campaign. Posters will be displayed in key sites in London, the south and the Midlands, and have already been sent to bank branches and other locations.

The banks have recently been taking a tougher line with retailers on frauds. Some retailers have been prosecuted for collusion in card frauds and other prosecutions are pending.

## Collett to buy itself back from Hambros

By Jonathan Clare

The directors of Collett, Dickinson, Pearce, one of Britain's most renowned advertising agencies, are bringing the agency from Hambros Bank, which stepped into provide much-needed financial support in 1979.

They are paying £1.9m for a 75 per cent stake in Solbourne, the company controls CDP, and are repaying loans of £2.9m to Hambros. The bank paid £225,000 for its holding in Solbourne.

CDP was a public company until an Inland Revenue investigation of the then chairman and managing director in 1978. The agency is best known for its creative advertising for clients like Benson & Hedges, Cinzano.

The agency's billings are back to the level of four years ago - about £60m against £63m.

## Rain hits beer recovery

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

The first hopes of a recovery in beer sales in Britain after two bad years are being whiped out by bad weather. Beer production in April, the first month badly hit by rain, fell 3.8 per cent.

Brewers' Society returns yesterday showed that in April 2.86 million bulk barrels were brewed compared with 2.97 million in the same month last year.

Earlier this year, the society forecast a stable beer production, possibly with a rise of about 0.5 per cent. There was, indeed, a rise of 0.5 per cent for the first quarter.

The trade had suggested that the spring bank holiday had produced good sales, but the continuing poor weather meant that public houses may not need to order heavily.

## Coalite profits rise

By Jeremy Warner

Coalite, the fuel production and distribution group which is also the owner of the Falkland Islands Company, yesterday reported a £3.48m increase in pretax profits to £27.34m for the year to the end of last March.

The Falklands Islands Company, which dominates the economy of the dependency, managed to improve its contribution to the results despite the disruption of the Argentinian invasion.

Coalite is attempting to develop the company away from its heavy dependence on sheep farming. It has begun

negotiations with unnamed British, foreign and Falkland islander interests to begin deep sea fishing in waters that are rich in hake and squid.

Meanwhile a short list of six families out of several hundred applicants has been drawn up to go to the Falklands to make use of company land in activities other than sheep farming.

## Opec production rise forecast

By Michael Prest

Crude oil output from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries could rise from its present 16 million barrels a day to an average of 18 million barrels daily in the final quarter of this year, Shaikh Ali Khalifa al-Sabah, the Kuwaiti oil minister, said yesterday.

The minister was reported by the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Wakeel as saying that economic growth in the West, the depletion of oil stocks, and Opec's adherence to the price and production agreement reached earlier this year would cause the rise.

London analysts pointed out, however, that an increase of this magnitude was common in the last quarter as the northern hemisphere winter pushed up demand. They were also sceptical about the relationship between faster gross national product growth and demand

for oil. A judgment that OEGD does not possess sufficient information and that there is a lack of penetrative analysis "will no doubt grate a few teeth among specialists who tour risky countries."

The very nature of their work takes them into less-than-comfortable places: one was in Lebanon when the US embassy was devastated.

The impact of political considerations on OEGD was exemplified by the way certain

sections of evidence appears in the committee's report like a schoolboy's magazine with the explosives removed.

"Could you give us an example," Mr Taylor was asked, "of where there has been an assessed shifting risk and where you have moved in terms of political pressures being made?"

"Perhaps," he replied (as the report says) "a helpful illustration might be the case of the Foreign Office and so on - that a number of commentators and indeed many of our own statistics pointed to the fact that being an excellent market, with first rate prospects for the future. We did come under a good deal of pressure to upgrade it from its previous market rating of 'moderate'. It is now being downgraded to 'moderate'. We have had to move it down to 'moderate'."

Having rescheduled its own fees (upwards), and having to draw on reserves, Mr Taylor found Mr Barnett interested in what allowed him a few peaceful moments.

"I sleep easier at night," he said, "in the knowledge that even when OEGD comes off cover altogether, British exports to a market continue..."

## Proof for MPs is an asterisk

## Storm warning at ECGD

By John Lawless

There are two views about the way Britain conducts its export credit business.

The one, held by speculators, is that - like cricket, rugby and football - Britain invented a game which others now play better.

The other, held by the players, is that the game had changed, and that an element of de-sponsorship was introduced, officially called "rescheduling".

Countries rescheduling their debts are, to the export credit insurers, like isobars on a meteorologist's map. The more there are around, the stormier the weather ahead.

The beneficiaries, namely exporters, believe that, inevitably, the truth lies somewhere in between - and the House of Commons Committee of Public Accounts has just been exploring that middle ground.

In reviewing the role and effectiveness of the Export Credit Guarantee Department, its report this week ended up both slightly to the right and left of centre.

ECGD has used merchant banks to analyse companies' balance sheets and financial prospects. But, the committee concluded: "We are not convinced that enough is yet being

done to draw upon private sector expertise."

On the other hand, the Treasury was given a nudge towards recruiting more civil servants for ECGD. It must give "particular attention" to future staff ceilings, given the £30bn a year in British trade which is at risk.

ECGD had 200 people lopped from its various branches just when it was heading into its most hectic period. And its best people get poached by the private sector. The financial isobars, meanwhile are stacking up alarmingly. There are 21 countries in the process of rescheduling - which compares with the only occasion when ECGD was forced into the red, when Brazil alone had to do so in the Fifties.

A judgment that ECGD does not possess sufficient information and that there is a lack of penetrative analysis "will no doubt grate a few teeth among specialists who tour risky countries."

The very nature of their work takes them into less-than-comfortable places: one was in Lebanon when the US embassy was devastated.

The impact of political considerations on OEGD was exemplified by the way certain

# Matthew Hall

Public Limited Company

## INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING DESIGNERS AND CONTRACTORS

### A decade of growth

Matthew Hall's activities in 1982 were affected by the worldwide recession but, despite this, profit before taxation for the year amounted to £11.6 million compared with £10.3 million for the previous year.

This has completed ten years of uninterrupted profit growth from £2.0 million in 1973 to the present level now reported by Mr Dennis Garrett, Chairman, in his Annual Statement to shareholders.

A final dividend of 4.944p per Ordinary Share is proposed, making a total for the year of 6.139p - an increase of 20%.

Improved profits from the mechanical and electrical engineering businesses - most of which are now regrouped in the UK under a single company, Matthew Hall Mechanical & Electrical Engineers Limited - were primarily as a result of an increased contribution from Matthew Hall Mechanical Services Limited. This was achieved despite a difficult climate in the construction industry.

The substantial increase in the oil, gas and chemical engineering companies' results has stemmed principally from the UK and Australia, but Barnard & Burk Group Inc. in the USA suffered from the recession there.

Investment in mining worldwide has been curtailed, especially in North America, and this had a significant impact on activity. However, in the UK the results were comparable with those of the previous year. Pincock, Allen & Holt, of Tucson, Arizona - a well-known specialist mining and engineering consultancy group - was acquired by the Group in 1982 and is well placed to take advantage of any upturn.

Concluding his statement, Mr Garrett says: "There are signs of a slight improvement in the UK but we have yet to be convinced that this will be a continuing rise. In the USA, the Stock Market is buoyant but this has yet to be reflected in increased industrial activity and the effect of the policies of the new Government in Australia has still to be evaluated."

However, the Board believes that the Group will continue to advance in 1983.

**Pre-tax Profit (£m)**

Summary of Results		
	1982 £000	1981 £000
Turnover	413,154	329,248
Profit before taxation	11,635	10,344
Taxation	3,981	2,085
Profit attributable to shareholders	7,653	8,259
Shareholders' funds	40,592	34,157
Dividends per share (gross)	8.27p	7.309p
Earnings per share	22.39p	24.18p

The Summary of Results shown above is an abridged version of the audited accounts which have been and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies. The Auditors' reports are unqualified.

The Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Friday, 24th June, 1983.

Copies of the Annual Report 1982, containing the Chairman's Statement in full and a Review of the Year may be obtained from the Secretary.

Matthew Hall PLC, 101-108 Tottenham Court Road, London W1A 1BT Telephone: 01-636 3676.



## Framlington up to 700p

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings begin, May 23. Dealings end, June 3. Contango Day, June 8. Settlement Day, June 13.

USM stocks made most of the running on the markets yesterday with five newcomers making impressive debuts. Leading the way was Framlington, the unit trust group, which opened at 620p and moved ahead to 700p against a placing price of 400p. Cobra Emerald Mines, the South African emerald mining company, also opened at a significant premium, 13p ahead of the 63p placing price. It closed 16p ahead at 79p.

MDAT Computers was less successful. The shares opened 15p ahead of the 73p placing price, but retreated to that level. Laurence Gould, the agricultural consultancy, also held close to its 120p opening price for most of the day's trading. Julius's Holdings, the discotheque company, managed only a slight improvement on its 260p starting price, closing at 263p, despite an announcement that it has agreed a four-year contract to provide sound services for a new hotel opening in Chicago.

Nimble International, the 3D camera company, was down a further 18p today to 58p after yesterday's poor results. Production and quality problems have hampered sales of the

camera, testing to the limit the loyalty of Mr Fred Olsen, the Norwegian shipping tycoon who is a major shareholder.

Elsewhere most of the leading shares tumbled causing the FT index to fall 7.9 points. It closed at 704.6. A poll showing reduced support for the Conservative Government.

Shares of Becham Group recovered from earlier falls to end 2p higher at 408p ahead of today's profits which are expected to be about £250m against £202m last time. But intriguing the market is the unannounced forthcoming retirement of Mr William Peley, 52, head Becham Pharmaceuticals, the company's major profit-earning division.

servatives put pressure on interest rates and even the Derby was cited as a reason for the poor performance and generally quiet trading. Gilt followed the easier

pound and showed early falls of up to 1/2 a point, later coming back to 4/8 off.

After slipping 6p the shares rallied 2p to 276p on news that Safeway had expressed interest in the Linford share register. Meanwhile Fitch Lovell shares were down 2p at 150p.

BTR continued to build up its stake in Thomas Tilling buying another 3 million shares.

Pannure Gordon, brokers, estimate that pretax profits at London Investment Trust, the commodity broking and property company, will be up by 133 per cent to £3.5m in the year to March 1983. This rapid growth means that the shares continue to offer scope for appreciation at yesterday's closing price of 43p.

more it will be in a position to block the demerger proposals which are the mainstay of the Tilling bid defence.

Bank shares fell away as the pound weakened with National Westminster falling 15p to 605p. Midland came off 12p to 403p and Barclays closed down 11p at 485p.

Oils were also sluggish ahead of today's first-quarter figures from BP which are expected to show pretax profits of about £95m against £91m at the same stage last year. BP shares fell 4p to close at 386p while the revival of bid speculation lifted Tiscobro to 8p to 220p.

The Hawley Group confirmed details of its rights issue which were printed in *The Times* yesterday. The directors of Hawley said there had been an 83.8 per cent uptake from shareholders for the £14.4m issue and that the balance of the shares were placed in the market at 159.4p against the offer price of 146p. Hawley shares were down 1p at the close to 159p.

Shares of Banzel, the paper and packaging group, held firm at 325p.

## RECENT ISSUES

Company	Issue Size	Price	Yield
Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0
Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0
Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0
Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0
Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0
Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0
Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0
Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0
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Admiral 10p Ord (84)	10p	100	10.0

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## The De La Rue Company p.l.c.

### Stronger performance but further improvement needed to sustain growth

"While the Board is pleased with the strengthening of the Company's position in the past year, it nonetheless recognises that further improvement will be required to sustain growth. In today's economic environment even short-term predictions are acutely vulnerable to unforeseeable influences, and it would therefore be unwise to give any firm forecast of the outcome of Group trading in 1983/84. However, at this time the Board is looking for some advance upon the past year's results, but with the second half of the year being once again considerably more productive than the first."

Sir Arthur Norman, KBE, DFC.  
Chairman

### Main Features of the Year 1982/83

The belief expressed by the Board twelve months ago that the results for 1982/83 would be substantially better than those for the preceding year has been borne out by events, the second half showing, as predicted, a considerable advance over the first six months.

It has been possible to reverse in the accounts for the year the greater part of the provisions made against 1981/82 profits in respect of commercial risks arising from political and economic uncertainties. The Board has however made prudent provisions in the 1982/83 figures to take account of new risks which have arisen in a number of areas in our business and which continue to call for skilful management.

The Security side of the Company's business has shown good profits and registering an advance over the performance of the previous year. The improvement in profitability of the Currency Division and the results from the subsidiaries in Colombia and Brazil were particularly good.

On the other hand, our Crosfield Electronics business (which showed a trading loss of £5.8 Million) has again adversely affected the overall performance of the Group. Its recovery has been much slower than expected, so that an improvement in trading results was not seen until late in the year. The launch of new products coincided with a deepening of the world recession and intensified competition, and although sales volumes were satisfactory in the circumstances, margins remained under pressure. A number of important changes and initiatives have been set in train and while some of these have had the effect of depressing trading results for 1982/83, they have greatly improved current performance.

As always a large part of the Group turnover (£123 million) consisted of exports from the U.K. and in April a Queen's Award for Export Achievement was awarded to Thomas De La Rue, its fifth since the inception of the Scheme. Order books at the start of the current year were appreciably higher than twelve months ago.

There was an outflow of cash, some £14 million, in the year after a capital expenditure programme which absorbed over £13 million. The Group remains however a net lender of cash and continues to regard the maintenance of a strong financial position as being a high priority.

Faraday National Corporation of Herndon, Virginia, U.S.A., was purchased in January this year for \$5.5 million in cash. The company provides a highly efficient service to issuers of credit and debit cards in the United States, including the design and manufacture of bank cards and the embossing, encoding and direct mailing of completed cards to bank customers. It is a national leader in its field.

The business of W. Lethaby and Company Limited at Andover was acquired from the receiver in April this year for a consideration of £610,000. Lethaby has for many years been the prime supplier of numbering equipment to our Thomas De La Rue Currency Division.

The difficulties and dangers of international trading have seldom been greater than they are today. Recession in the industrial countries, economic and often physical famine in the less developed parts of the world and a lack of liquidity everywhere create unprecedented problems for the trader. Only goods of the highest quality and keenest price, backed up by impeccable service, can overcome them.

### Results for the year to 31 March 1983

	1983 £000	1982 £000
Sales		
U.K.	54,353	52,220
Export (including sales to overseas group Companies)	123,387	115,648
Overseas (after adjusting for inter-company sales)	48,166	35,628
	<b>225,906</b>	<b>203,496</b>
Trading profit before interest	20,545	13,394
Interest receivable less payable	2,107	1,937
Trading profit	22,652	15,331
Share of profits of associated companies	8,996	6,606
Profit before taxation	31,648	21,937
Taxation	11,444	7,110
Profit after taxation	20,204	14,827
Minority interests	1,915	1,380
Profit attributable to The De La Rue Company p.l.c.		
before extraordinary items	18,289	13,447
Extraordinary items	(3,222)	(806)
	<b>15,067</b>	<b>12,641</b>
Dividends	8,959	8,418
Retained earnings	6,108	4,223
Earnings per Ordinary share (before extraordinary items)	48.0p	35.3p
Trading profit as a percentage of sales	10.0%	7.5%

Proposed final dividend 16.90 net per share (1982 15.48p Net)

The figures for the year to 31 March 1983 are derived from the Group's full accounts for that period, which have been audited by independent accountants and will be filed with the Registrar of Companies after the Annual General Meeting.

Copies of the Preliminary Report and Chairman's Statement are available from the Secretary, De La Rue House, Burlington Gardens, London W1A 1DL.

Derek Harris spotlights the old giant's trading losses

## Co-ops at the merger crossroads

For years while the Co-op's lead as Britain's biggest grocery retailer has been eroded, it has provided the question: when will it get its act together? This week's Co-operative Congress, the movement's annual parliament, may have provided something like an answer at last.

The biggest merger in the history of the co-operative movement for one thing seems set to go through. Against some odds, it should put together the two leaders of the movement, the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the Co-operative Retail Services, the movement's biggest retailer.

But this grouping - big as it is, with a potential turnover of £2.25 bn - will account for only just over a quarter of co-operative retail trade.

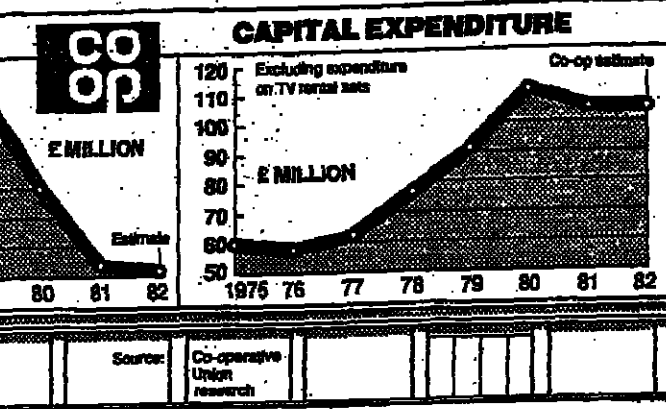
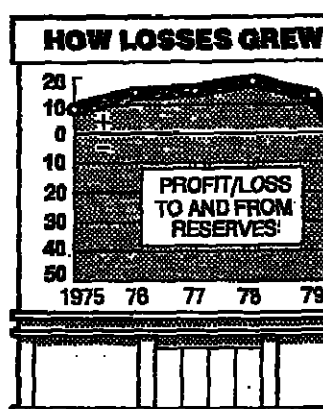
Among the 135 other retail societies which do the rest of the trade some fruitful mergers are coming through, the latest being the merger only days ago of the successful Stoke-based North Midlands Society and the larger but loss-making Greater Lancashire Society.

The combined societies, called United Co-operatives, are now the largest grouping in the movement next to CRS, pushing the Tyneside-based North Eastern Society into third position.

United's territory runs from the southern Lake District to the Potteries. Its chief executive is Mr Bill Farrow, under whose stewardship North Midlands prospered and who is also chairman of CIS, the CWS insurance arm, and a member of the CWS Board.

Still, there are far too many societies as boards of directors and local managers tend to hang on to what they have. Some societies seem merely to lurch from one annual balance sheet to the next, often selling assets to cover trading losses.

But the past few years of trading adversity and some determined efforts by the Co-operative Union through full-time investigators and persuaders is bearing some fruit. At the Union, which is the



overall advisory body to the movement, Mr Lloyd Wilkinson, chief executive and general secretary, foresees a rapid reduction in the number of societies to fewer than 100.

Much of this is likely to happen as the "merger scene" reaches its peak.

More retail societies do now seem to be appreciating the extent of their problems and something must be done. That much came through at the Harrogate Congress this week. As well as the chastening effects of recession, the increasing competition on the high street from chains like J.

### Assets sales era may be coming to an end

Sainsbury and Tesco stores have put a premium on greater efficiency.

The societies have closed nearly 800 outlets in the past year but that still leaves 7,200 which stand in most balance sheets at artificially low historical values. So societies still have a vast asset base on which they could capitalize. Total square footage of sales area in stores is still almost as great because stores are getting bigger.

The era of selling off assets simply to offset trading losses may be coming to an end while

still leaving scope for a creative use of assets by selling some to release capital for investment in more modern stores.

The Co-op as a whole now operates 55 superstores but it needs more to keep up with the game. This was the logic of the recent acquisition of five big Mainstreet Stores from BAT Industries by CWS which subsequently either sold or leased them to individual societies.

With CWS as manufacturer and wholesaler keen to increase retail outlet capacity as a channel for its goods, more such deals are likely if the right buying chances arise.

On average retail societies source 70 per cent of their purchases from CWS whose primary job is to supply goods and services to the retail societies. Mr Dennis Landau, CWS chief executive, would like to see that go to 75 per cent or over 80 per cent which would be at the limit.

Reports circulating in the movement indicate that since 1979 and including last year about £115m in trading losses have been covered from society reserves.

These reserves in turn have been propped up by sales of assets, including many old smaller shops but also in some cases more substantial property like department stores.

Reserves overall because of this were until last year still on a rising trend even though the

trading losses were mounting. But last year apparently there was some decline in the overall reserves.

At the same time, with some honourable exceptions including CRS, the societies' investment in new store development has fallen short of expectation. Mrs Norma Willis, this year's Congress president, described it as seriously inadequate.

At any rate, the cushioned ride on the back of asset sales may be nearing its end.

That, more than anything else, could accelerate the rate of merger. But there are other pressures. Co-op rules have now

### Time to make up fully to today's trading realities

been toughened, allowing the unions' investigation team to insist if necessary on looking at its society's books with the final sanction of a society being expelled from the movement. At least one recalcitrant society is now threatened with forced investigation of its affairs.

There is a growing expectation in the movement that at least one society could soon be allowed to go to the wall rather than being saved at the 11th hour. Rescue in the past has largely come from CRS, which started life as an ambulance service for societies in trouble.

But since it took over the troubled London society in early 1981, CRS has had to pull £27m in all from its reserves to meet the cost, mostly, of digesting the London rescue.

Despite its successful trading in its established regions CRS reserves are now down to £33.2m.

The combining of the CWS and CRS balance sheets will provide ample reserves for any further rescue that might be needed. But Mr Landau is insistent on the need for big regional societies to play a strong role so they will be the preferred route for mergers.

Allowing a Co-op to fail and thus serving notice on all troubled societies that they cannot automatically expect rescue would be a strong psychological weapon in the battle to secure a limited number of strong well run regional societies. The aim is to get the number of societies down to 25.

But such action will not be taken without heart searching that it just might in an embarrassing large number of other societies cause a run on the share capital subscribed by members who might become alarmed at the abandonment of a society.

Only a few months ago some in the movement wanted to allow the Belfast-based North-eastern operation to go into liquidation when it ran into financial problems. But, with CRS overstretched, the CWS stepped in.

If non-rescue is the price of progress in the movement it is time the Co-op's network of leaders, with their interlocking board commitments in CWS, CRS and the retail societies, really braced themselves and stood up ready to be counted.

Sainsbury's is already overtaking the Co-op in the high street inshore of the packaged grocery market. It is time for the old Co-op giant, now it is showing real signs of stirring at last, to wake up fully to today's trading realities.

## Historical trade surplus slips off balance

### Industrial notebook

Britain has had a trade surplus on its manufactured goods since the Industrial Revolution. Its appearance has become so repetitive that it no longer makes headlines. Until, that is, it ceases to disappear in the middle of an election.

Figures published last Friday show that, in the first quarter of this year, Britain had a deficit on manufactures of £664m - an about-turn from the £678m surplus achieved in the last three months of last year.

For the first time since Britain became an industrial leader it has been beaten by its competitors.

Britain depends more on its manufactured goods sales as a contribution to its overall economic performance than

most of its industrial competitors. Factory-made goods exports translate directly into - or fewer - jobs at home.

And despite a valiant effort by British exporters (which have seen sales consistently rising), Britain's trade position in the EEC has been deteriorating.

Conservatives have been stressing that "exports are running at record levels".

The manufactured goods "surplus" normally only gets raised during question time in the House. The next such occasion was scheduled for June 6, and Labour and the Alliance feel they have been

robbed of a vital scoring point - until now, that is.

The deficit has appeared as the only hefty piece of statistical evidence against conservative economic performance.

Mrs Shirley Williams has been trying to extract the facts from the Conservatives. She raised the deficit during a television confrontation with Sir Geoffrey Howe almost two weeks ago.

She was able to challenge the Chancellor's "record exports" claim only by saying "But it's oil Geoffrey, it's oil".

Oil, she was implying, does not create jobs. Not in the same way as a few more cars sold abroad.

The latest figures, it must be stressed, are on a refined balance of payments basis (BOP).

Shipping and insurance costs, which distort the picture by inflating the real value of Britain's foreign sales, will have been eliminated.

How will the Conservatives answer the charges that, by keeping the pound uncompetitively high, job-creating manufactured goods exports have been kept down - while similar imports have been encouraged?

First, Mrs Thatcher must argue that Britain would not have slipped into deficit but for an exceptionally low January export performance. Sales on a BOP basis were down to £4.6m in that month, against December's £5bn. February's £4.9bn and £5.3bn in March.

There is no explanation for that. Large volume exporters do not report that they kept shipments down in that month.

The £700m gap remains, upon which Mrs Thatcher's opponents will concentrate. She will probably stress the strong performance of British manufacturers in foreign markets.

Another probable argument is that the devaluation of sterling between October and March, of about 14.5 per cent, will work its way through to increased exports this year.

But deals being done today will not translate into better figures until, probably, the end of this year. The best Britain can hope for this year is a return to a modest surplus on manufactures by the year-end.

John Lawless



**Davies & Newman**  
HOLDINGS P.L.C.

### Extracts from Chairman's Statement

"A year ago I forecast that 1982 would not be an easy one for the Group but that every effort would be made by the Directors and Staff to maintain profitability. I am, therefore, very pleased to report that 1982 turned out well, with a Group profit before tax and extraordinary item of £3,300,000.

There is no doubt that an end to the recession would improve the outlook for companies involved with shipping and aviation. Unfortunately, this situation has not yet happened and it is, therefore, necessary to remain cautious when considering the future. However, the airline is ready to tackle another busy season and all actions of the Group are alert to deal with every eventuality."

F. E. F. Newman, M.C.

### Summary of Results

	1982 £000	1981 £000
• Turnover	183,840	154,472
• Profit before taxation	3,316	342
• Profit after taxation and extraordinary item	3,614	58
• Shareholders' funds	19,409	16,352
• Dividend per share	10p	3.0p
• Earnings per share	57p	1.0p



Copies of the Directors' Report and Accounts for 1982 may be obtained from the Secretary, Davies & Newman Holdings P.L.C., Bilbo House, 36-38 Nevill Street, London, EC2M 1NH.

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## Associated British Foods



44 Profits before tax and shareholders' funds have both shown compound growth in excess of 15 per cent. over the past five years in spite of the recession affecting all of our major markets at home and overseas.

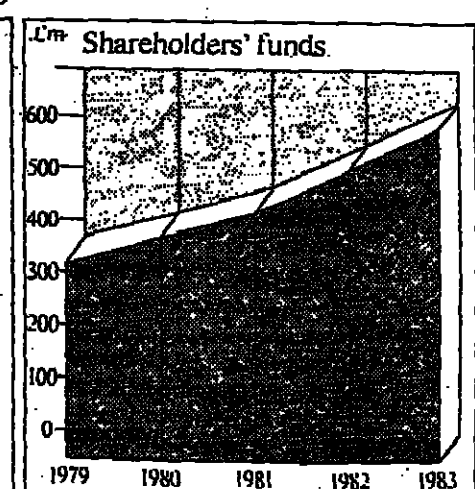
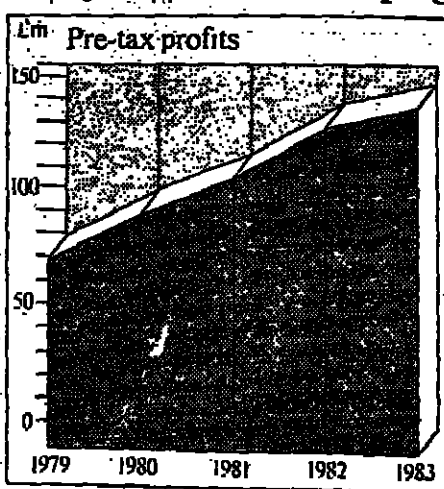
Over £700 million has been spent in this period on new assets and investments placing the group in a strong position to achieve further growth in the future."

Garry Weston, Chairman

### Financial Highlights

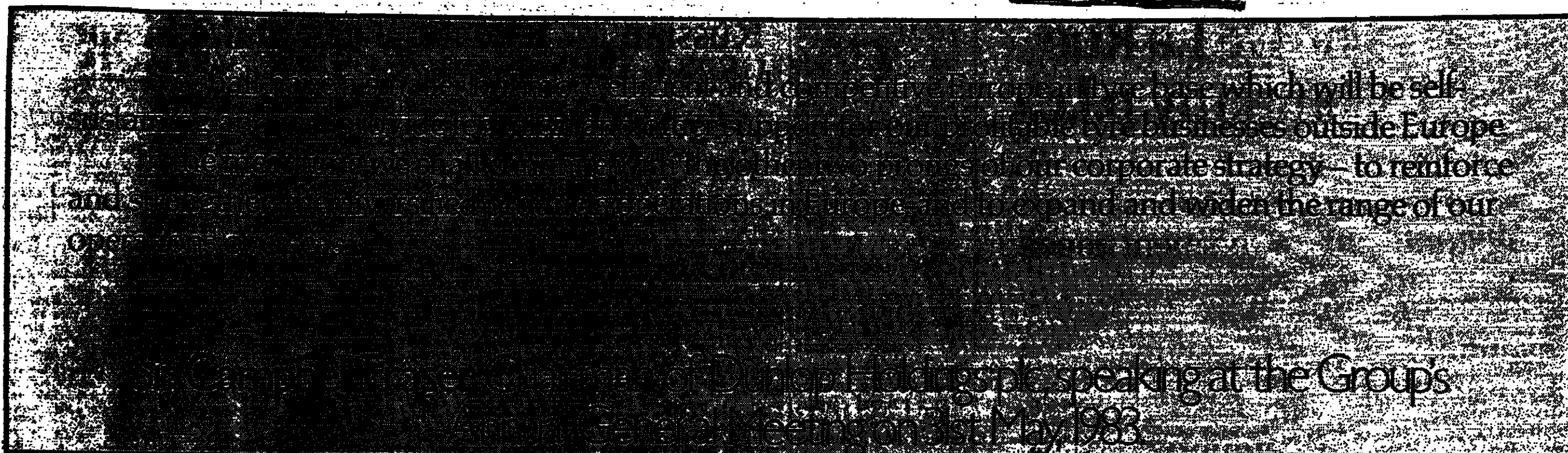
	1983 £ million	1979 £ million
Sales	3,366	1,822
Profit before tax	147	79
Capital employed	898	491
Earnings per share	23.0p	14.0p
Dividends per share	4.7p	2.6p

### Five years of consistent progress



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## THE YEAR 1982

I have to sum up 1982 as a most disappointing year given the amount of time and effort that was put into the business by management at all levels. Signs of some improvement in the level of business activity in the earlier months of the year proved to be short-lived, at least in this country, and by the summer it had become apparent that the recovery was petering out. Indeed, you will recall that at the time of the interim results I warned that trading conditions in the EEC were worsening markedly, particularly for tyres and automotive components. In the event, that forecast turned out to be only too accurate because it was in the United Kingdom and France that the tyre operations slipped sharply into loss in the second half of the year; and a number of our other businesses had a harder time in a difficult economic climate.

Fortunately, despite the spread of the recession, our overseas businesses as a whole had another good year, and the extent to which once again they supported our operations in Europe will not have escaped your notice. Even so, that fact is often conveniently overlooked by those who accuse us, quite tendentiously, of neglecting our home base.

1982 was also another year of restructuring and rationalisation; there were changes both in the composition of the Group and inevitably in the number of employees. But employment was not the only resource that was cut back - very stringent measures were adopted to take more costs out of the business, to reduce expenses, and to conserve cash. The success of these measures can be seen in the fall in working capital to finance the business against an increase of 3% in the value of sales.

Of course, the disappointing aspect of the year's results was the sharp reversal in the trend of profit recovery so that the loss in the second half year more than offset the trading profit earned in the first half year. In the event, for the year as a whole, there was a trading loss of some £7 million, which meant a significant loss at the attributable level.

This was aggravated by the extraordinary costs sustained in the year, the effects of the continuing rationalisation and restructuring of the Group is shown by the net change of £28 million. That reflects further significant change both in the tyre business in Europe and in our diversified products operations. It has been our aim to shelter extraordinary costs with extraordinary profits and we would have largely achieved this again this year if the sale of part of our share in the Malaysian manufacturing business had been completed in time. Nevertheless, we would expect to get the benefit of that deal during the course of this year.

In the prevailing circumstances, the Board was unanimous in its view that it should not have been provided to recommend a final dividend for the year in addition to the interim dividend already paid. But the Board's primary objective to restore the dividend as quickly as trading results justify.

## RECESSION AND RESPONSE

The reasons for this year's bad trading are not far to seek. I have mentioned before the effect that technology has had on tyre life - but mentioning it does not change it. There is the severity and length of the recession in Western Europe. There has never been such a severe recession in the post-war world, and whilst we are not alone in suffering from that, it has to be said that the tyre business right across Europe has been hit harder than any other industry except perhaps steel. Despite the closure of 15 tyre factories in Europe, rising productive efficiency has more than outweighed the loss of capacity, so that there is still something like 15%-20% over-capacity in Europe. That, together with imports from outside the EEC, has had a disastrous effect on tyre price levels and margins. The very considerable savings achieved in the last three years by dint of tough management action, and a number of necessary but unpalatable decisions affecting people, have been whittled away by the market place in terms of lower prices for tyres. In real terms, they are well below the levels of three years ago. Every major tyre company in Europe has been reporting substantial losses for some time in that we are not alone.

Given this situation, the question that can properly be put is whether tyres in Europe will ever be a reasonable business earning a reasonable rate of return on investment as in the early years of the 1970s. On the basis of reduced scale of operation, we believe the answer to that question is in the affirmative. We were the first of the major companies to recognise that radical action needed to be taken to meet the incipient recession in 1978/79. These measures were both necessary and costly. Competitors followed more tardily. We have more to do, and we have plans for further action which will be implemented during the next twelve months. These we believe that we shall have a superior but more efficient and competitive European base which will be self-sustaining and will provide technical and other support for our profitable tyre businesses outside Europe. In the meantime, we shall continue with the other two prongs of our corporate strategy - to reinforce and strengthen the diversified products operations in Europe, and to expand and widen the range of our operations overseas. Together these businesses represent a real and continuing source of strength for the Group. Structural change on this scale inevitably takes time and money

and involves a lot of painful choices. However, unlike some of our major competitors, we are reshaping ourselves from within our own resources with little or no external financial aid. For this reason, we have to move at a pace consistent with our financial resources and the needs of our other businesses. In that regard, our finances are stretched but are adequate for the primary task of getting the tyre business in Europe right. I can assure you that the management time and effort to resolve this particular problem, which is central to the Group's future well-being, is whole-hearted and determined.

## COMPANY SHAREHOLDINGS

Following our discussion at last year's Annual General Meeting, I undertook to study the size of directors' shareholdings. You may recall that in 1970 shareholders agreed to delete qualification shares for directors from the Company's Articles of Association. As a matter of interest, the Article that was deleted said: "A qualification of a director shall be the holding of shares of any class of the nominal amount of £100." That was not an onerous provision, but the decision recognised that the existence of qualification shares was an anachronism given the separation between ownership and management in a major public company. There are only a few companies that have retained such qualification shares and, indeed, not one of the major companies we have studied has an overt policy regarding the desirability or the level of directors' shareholdings.

The reason clearly is that the personal assets of individual directors vary widely, and it is generally accepted that it would be shortsighted of any public company to deny itself the services of appropriate people on the grounds of financial inability to invest. I am aware of the argument that directors and senior executives who have a significant holding in the company thereby indicate confidence in themselves and in the future of the company. It is often said that these executives will identify more closely with the interests of the company and be more prepared to focus attention on improving profitability when a significant proportion of their own reward is related to the results and the success of the enterprise.

How valid are these arguments? They are, of course, not open to objective proof. It is now generally accepted that the management of a public company is separate from ownership. Management skills and expertise are professional and distinct from the ability to invest on any scale. This is not to argue that a director should have no personal involvement - that is a matter of personal preference and capability. For the professional director, however, self-interest is a

powerful motivating force. He has invested his and his family's future in the business, and this is most true of those who have least private capital. His incentive to identify with the success of the business is clear indeed. We concluded that the balance of logic and argument is against the imposition of significant investment obligations on directors in companies that they manage, and particularly so in large public companies such as Dunlop. It is generally true that the larger the company the smaller the proportion of the equity that directors hold. We examined the proportionate holdings of your directors compared with companies of similar size, and on this basis Dunlop directors are about average. We came to the conclusion, therefore, that there was little reason, and certainly no precedent, to support the contention that major public companies should impose on their directors an obligation to invest significantly in the businesses that they manage and run.

You will be interested to know that we tested these arguments and conclusions with our auditors, and they supported these findings. During the course of the study, however, we were struck by the fact that whilst the vast majority of companies accept that there should be no obligation on their directors to invest, a growing number consider that the provision of a direct link between company performance and senior management reward in the form of a share incentive scheme can be helpful to the company. Accordingly, during this year we shall look carefully at schemes which encourage participation both at a senior level and for employees as a whole. Of course, any scheme that we may propose would be within the guidelines set out by the Investors Protection Committees, and would require your consent. If we consider it appropriate to do so, we shall bring forward such schemes for your consideration in due course.

In this context, you may be interested to know that at the end of last year the Company had just over 46,000 shareholders, of whom 44,700 were private individuals. However, as with most public companies, the proportion of shareholders is not reflected in the ownership of your Company. Private shareholders now hold 26% of the equity; institutions of all kinds account for some 39%; and the balance is owned by overseas residents. You may recall that two years ago I had occasion to refer to the holdings in the Far East, and you may be aware of Press comment about the shares held in Malaysia. Following their recent purchases, Pegi Malaysia Berhad now owns 26.1% of the equity of the Company and we believe that another 9% or so is held either in, or beneficially for, residents in the Far East. There has been a good deal of speculation about the motives of our major shareholders in the Far East. As far as we know, these shareholders regard their stake as a long-term investment in the Company, and have not indicated any other intention.

## CURRENT TRADING

So far this year, trading results overseas and in diversified products in Europe are better than in comparable months of 1982. The same is true of Dunlop operations in Germany, including tyres. These results undoubtedly reflect some strengthening of demand in Europe and the USA, as well as the effects of continuing management action to improve profitability in Dunlop companies throughout the world.

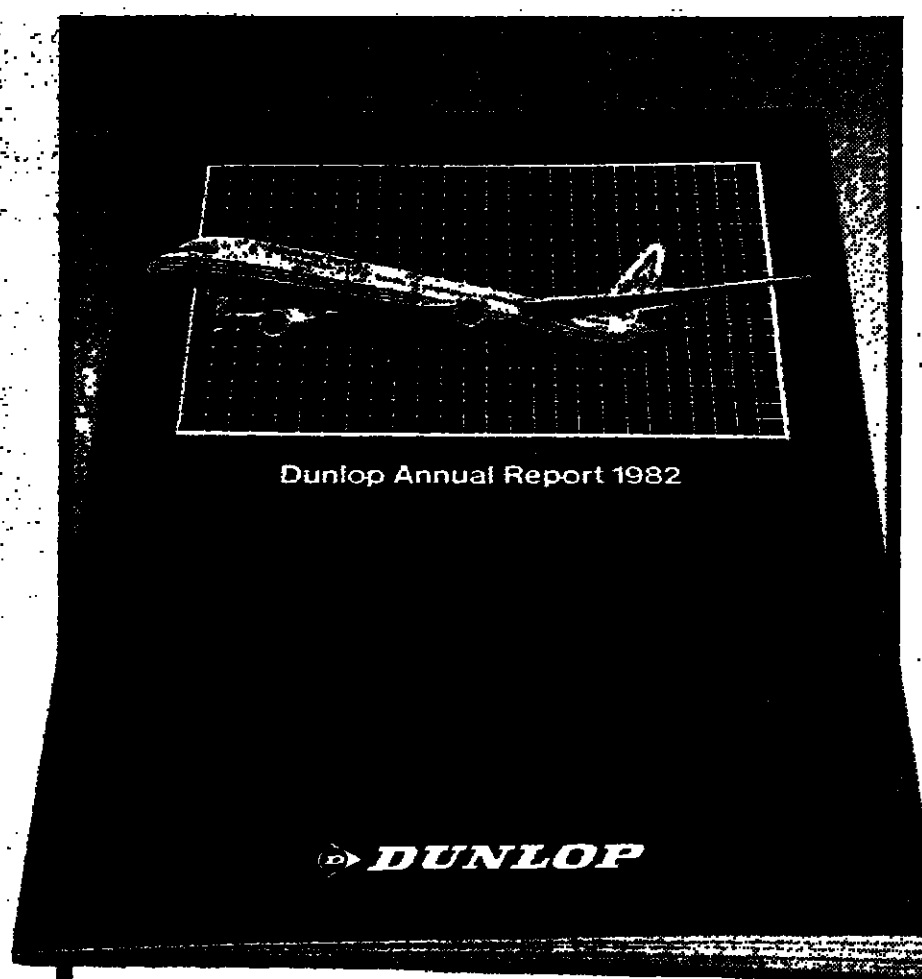
However, the tyre businesses in the UK, France and Ireland are still unsatisfactory, mainly because of the effects of over-capacity on the level of tyre prices. Measures were taken in the autumn to reduce costs in these businesses and further radical restructuring is in hand. This remains a major priority not least because an improvement in the performance of the tyre businesses in these areas of Europe would help to release the considerable growth potential in other parts of the Group.

Overall, therefore, there are some signs of improvement in the market place which, together with the action already taken by management should ensure that the poor results in the second half of 1982 are not repeated in the first half of this year. Beyond that, it is reasonable to expect that, unless there is some further unexpected deterioration in the market place, the present measures should progressively restore the Group to a healthier trading position.

## BOARD CHANGES

I should mention two impending retirements from the Board: Mr. Donal Carroll will retire at the end of this meeting, and in view of his other commitments in Ireland, will not be seeking re-election. Mr. Carroll, who is now Chairman of the Bank of Ireland, and also Chairman of Carroll Industries Ltd., was appointed a non-executive director in 1973, and he has served the

Company with distinction during his period of office. We are grateful to him for his sage advice over the years. Mr. Michael Bexon, an executive colleague, is also retiring on reaching the age of 60. He joined the Company in 1948 and has served it assiduously and well in a number of senior positions both at home and overseas. He has been a member of this Board since 1967, and I should like to thank him for his services to the Company and wish him well on your behalf, in his retirement. There are five directors standing for re-election, two of whom joined the Board during 1982 - Mr. William Menzies-Wilson and Mr. Colin Hope. The other directors seeking re-election are Sir John Baring, Mr. Anthony Harvey and Mr. Roy Marsh, all of whom I would commend to you.



# DUNLOP

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**CYCLING: MILK RACE GUARANTEED EXCITING FINALE**



**More boxing, page 25**  
**Obituary, page 16**

## EQUESTRIANISM

## Miss Clapham to ride Andeguy at Bramham

**By Jenny MacArthur**

Bramham will be the horse's first three-day event, but his form has been impressive. He was second in the intermediate class at Crookham

## Skelton takes Everest to summit.

The Everest stable made an excellent start at the Royal Bath and West Show yesterday when Nick Skelton, on St James, won the first jumping competition, the Cock-

In heavy fog, four of the 20 competitors were eliminated. Stephen Hadley, of Suquamish, was trapped in the jump-off, in which there were three very sharp turns. He set a stiff record with a clear round in 43.89sec, and Pam Dunning, of Bellingham, was also clear.

## Skelton takes Everest to summit

**By a Special Correspondent**

The Everest stable made an excellent start at the Royal Bath and West Show yesterday when Nick Skelton, on St James, won the first jumping competition, the Cockburn Chase, over the reserve.

In heavy going, four of the 20 competitors went clear and Stephen Hadley, on Sumorra, was drawn first in the jump-off, in which there were 12 competitors. Skelton was the target with a clear round in 43.89sec, and Pam Dunning, who followed on Fearless, was also clear.

Nick Skelton got into all the corners on St James to finish in 43.66 and Robert Smith, on Vista, last to jump, retired after he had two fences down.

**Special**  
St James' 1. Cockburn Chase (Nick Skelton); 2. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 3. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 4. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 5. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 6. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 7. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 8. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 9. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 10. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 11. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 12. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 13. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 14. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 15. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 16. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 17. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 18. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 19. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning); 20. Cockburn Chase (Pam Dunning).

**North Yorkshire Moors. Insto**  
a cattle training spin

contented themselves with a car-borne reconnaissance of the climbs that could decide this twenty-sixth Milk Race.

With only three stages, and 190 miles of racing left, the outcome is as uncertain as it was when we left Bournemouth 10 days ago. Even the most patriotic Irishman would hesitate before forecasting that their race leader, Paul Kimmage, will still

Kimmage has gained the lead by not being one of the favourites, unlike Yates, who has been heavily marked. The Dubliner, aged 21, went with long-term breakaways on the stages to Leicester and Halifax, and his decisions proved successful because of the tactical manoeuvres of teams that are undoubtedly stronger than the Irish.

The West Germans, for instance, rode strongly on the flat stages, but they have proved less adept in the hills, and the second-placed Ulrich Rotlier is not showing the form of a potential winner.

In contrast, Yates, only eight seconds behind the 29-year-old West German, has shown unexpected aptitude for climbing hills. He

The other British challenger is the amateur rider, Malcolm Elbot, who has crept back into contention with the two minutes to time bonuses he has picked up from winning four out of the 11 road race stages.

## OLYMPIC GAMES

### Los Angeles

# OLYMPIC GAMES

## Los Ange

Lansanne, Switzerland (AP)—Organizers of the 1984 Los Angeles games and officials of the International Olympic Committee remained at loggerheads over the IOC proposals on new drug tests, pending proof of their validity.

Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles organizing committee, said a recent decision was rumored opposed to testosterone and caffeine testing, which, he said, could turn the Olympics into "the games of the pure and the corrupt."

He said the first such tests, at the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, Australia, last October, were "total failures" and "a waste of money."

He added, however, that the organizers might drop their opposi-

## Kimmage can make history



An exciting finale is assured. It can be guaranteed that Kimmage will be riding his heart out to cling on to his slender lead. Last winter, he received hours of tactical advice from the Irish professional rider, Stephen Roche, who is an expert reader of a race. If the exuberant Kimmage can put theory into practice, he may yet give the Irish their most famous cycling victory on English roads.

## NEW DRUG TESTS

## OLYMPIC GAMES: A TESTING TIME FOR NEW DRUG TESTS

## Los Angeles resists IOC on drugs

Lansdowne, Switzerland (AP)—Organizers of the 1988 Los Angeles Olympic Games said they will not allow the International Olympic Committee to remain at loggerheads over the IOC proposals on new drug tests, pending proof of their validity.

Peter Ueberroth, president of the Los Angeles organizing committee, said he and his staff have already opposed to testosterone and caffeine testing, which, he said, could turn the Olympics into "the games of lawyers and doctors."

He said the first such tests, at the Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, Australia, last year, were "total dissatisfaction and did not work."

He added, however, that the organizers might drop their oppo-

coming events should show they are feasible.

Prince Alexandre de Merode, chairman of the IOC's medical commission, told a reporter he was confident that testosterone and caffeine testing at the Mediterranean Games at Cersibianna, Morocco, and the Winter Olympics at Sanjago, Yugoslavia, would produce the proof called for by Ueberroth. "I must tell him we are not crazy people," Merode said. "They must be prepared to do the tests and I am sure they will accept them. It is the IOC that has the lists of substances to be tested and neither organized committee."

Merode's commission had stipulated the tests for testosterone and

their use by athletes who had admitted to using easily-detectable anabolic steroids.

Ueberroth said that the Los Angeles committee "deplored" the use of such substances "but did not want the athletes to suffer." He said the organizers want to have tests limited to those used during the 1980 Olympics in Moscow.

● (Reuters) - The shooting events at the Los Angeles Olympic Games could be staged in Las Vegas after all, despite the rejection of the venue in January by the International Olympic Committee. The Los Angeles organizing committee have whittled down four potential venues in California to two and added Las

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## RUGBY UNION: TEAM-FOR FIRST INTERNATIONAL

## Lions choice to All Blacks liking

From Don Cameron, Christchurch

The All Black coach, Bryce Ropie, had a quiet smile on his face yesterday when he heard the British Lions team to face the first international at Lancaster Park on Saturday. Ropie and his fellow selectors Sten Hill and Brian Lochore had, before they picked the New Zealand team, attempted to forecast the Lions side.

Apart from the necessary omission of John Carleton on the right wing and the choice of Ian Stephens ahead of Staff Jones as loose head prop, the Lions team was, Mr Ropie said, very much as he and his colleagues had predicted. His smile was not solely based on his own perspicacity, but that the choice of the Lions centres and scrum half may well have removed two of the All Blacks defensive problems.

By choosing David Irwin and Robert Ackerman as the midfield backs the Lions have presented the All Blacks with two sturdy but generally predictable opponents, rather than call on the speed and elusiveness which Michael Kieran has shown occasionally on tour.

If the All Blacks have a chance in their defensive armour it could be at Stephen Fyfe at centre, and he will appreciate the straight-forward running of Ackerman rather than Kieran.

Predictably one supposes the Lions have preferred Holmes, very much the form-half of the home season, ahead of Roy Laidlaw. Holmes has the dynamic impact of a good loose forward, but his pass is rather laboured and behind scrum and lineout, he tends to what has become a fairly predictable pass.

Laidlaw has more speed and flair on the break, the kind of imp who could thumb his nose at set-piece defences - the man who could worry the All Blacks.

However, the Lions may be excused if they have taken the conservative approach for their form has been so variable in the five warm-up games that they might have taken a huge risk if they had chosen a side more geared to running and scheming attack.

Dusty Hare must have run Hugo MacNeill very close for the full back position, although neither has been in totally convincing form. However, Hare was tidy in the

non-descript match against Mid-Canterbury on Tuesday, and he did launch one of two effective counter-attacks, something the Lions have tried very seldom on tour.

Trevor Ringland has benefited by Carleton's concussion, and has looked eager and enterprising, but he is a young man of rather wayward habits. He took two very valuable tries against Manawatu last Saturday, but on Tuesday he had room to spare in the right corner but allowed himself to be stuffed into touch by a large and rather ponderous prop forward.

Peter Winterbottom has won the open-side flank position ahead of Jim Calder. Winterbottom is the fastest of the two over the ground, but Calder looks the more effective at hunting for the ball on the ground and at reading the threat of the attack. He looks rather more suited to the nose-to-the-ground battle in the loose that dictates in international matches these days just who controls the loose ball at the tackle.

The rest of the forward selection was predictable and, as luck would have it, Wales have won the major share of the team with six players in the fifteen and the remaining two in themselves. Ireland have five which leaves rather small pickings for England and Scotland with two apiece.

Which Lions: H MacNeill, T Ringland, D Irwin, R Ackerman, S Fyfe, G Laidlaw, S Jones, J Carleton, G Peckham, G Price, M Colclough, R Norris, J Squire, J Pearson, P Winterbottom, S Hare, G Evans, J Rutherford.



David Irwin: a sturdy centre but perhaps too predictable

## Man in the middle of a storm

Ashburton, (AFP) - The French referee, Francois Palmade, is emerging as the key man in Saturday's first international match between the British Lions and the All Blacks here.

Palmade's possibly decisive role has been highlighted by the dispute between the Lions and New Zealand teams over the legality of certain rucking seen on the tour. The Lions manager, Willie John McBride, has gone to great lengths to spotlight

what he regards as foul play and this may have been a clear attempt to draw Palmade's attention to the problem. If that is so, the Lions might gain some sort of advantage from the refereeing of a neutral in Saturday's international match.

In a sense, the storm created by McBride's words following the Lions victory at Manawatu on Saturday was both justified and unjustified. Television coverage clearly showed Manawatu's former All Black lock,

Oliver, stamping the Lions captain, Fitzgerald, on the head in a second-half ruck.

McBride was correct to say: "That is not part of the game in our book. Players would be sent off at home for that."

Palmade is already known as a man firmly opposed to violent play. He is experienced enough as an official to handle whatever arises on Saturday, without the Lions management shouting warnings.

## BOXING

## Spanking new Bruno American style

By Srikanth Sen, Boxing Correspondent

The first year of Frank Bruno's world championship course is over. He finished with a 100 per cent record, stopping every one of his 16 opponents inside five rounds. But in view of the fact that none of them was able to seriously test the Welshman's chin, it is difficult to tell what progress has been made in the direction of the world title.

Over the last 14 months he has done everything asked of him but because of the poor quality of his opponents, his learning has been slow and even with more adventurous match-making it could take another two years before we find out how solid is the flesh behind that solid right hand that can destroy anyone in the world.

From the plans of Terry Lawless, Bruno's manager, it seems that the heavyweight's connections are hoping for world title success rather than two years. With Joe Bugner out of the way, Bruno can start making tracks towards the title. That is why Mr Lawless is taking Bruno to the United States. Lawless hopes that while there Bruno will be able to spar with top men like Dokes, Feg, and Witherspoon, and perhaps even get in a contest with a lesser figure.

Bruno should not feel too diffident about mixing in such elevated company for on Tuesday night at the Albert Hall he destroyed Barry Fuchs, of New York, with

an uppercut in the fifth round. Fuchs had gone eight rounds with Eddie Gregg, who had knocked out Reynold Snipes as a leading contender for Holme's title.

But there are certain worrying aspects about Bruno's boxing that I am sure Mr Lawless hopes will be cured, notably Bruno's stiffness which gives him poor mobility in the close encounters. Against Fuchs Bruno not only looked wooden chasing him but in the close exchanges his usually neat work became ragged.

He reminded me of an allotment - all dishevelled orderliness - and in the words of that Hollywood heavyweight, Humphrey Bogart, Bruno's ability to do something about it did not "amount to a hill of beans".

This was perhaps because of the lack of sparring partners at his gym in Canning Town who can correct the big man's mistakes with a clout on the chin. No doubt he will find plenty of Americans eager to do that and by the end of the summer we could see a brand new Bruno.

## Coach chosen

Frankfurt (AFP) - West Germany have chosen a Frenchman, Charles Roesch, as the new coach of their national table tennis team. He takes up his duties on July 1.

## POINT TO POINT

## Miss Harper at her best on Baulking Byway

By Ian Reid

Baulking Byway, running for the first time under rules, was an appropriate winner of the RMC Group Ladies' Championship at Chesham on Bank Holiday.

The spectacular burst of finishing speed put paid to Spornan Lad's valiant attempt to lead from start to finish.

Owned and bred by Ann Bray, his dam being a sister to that great hunter, Baulking Green, he was brilliantly ridden by Rosemary Harper, secretary of the Point to Point Owners Association, who qualified him from her Cotswold stable, together with the useful Housemistress.

Mrs Gordon Spratt's Little Blusham won the Webster's Yorkshire Bitter Men's championship almost as easily after the only danger, Urser, had blundered badly at the second last fence.

The rearranged Owners' Club meeting at Woodford, ended in a complete efficiency last Thursday, started with an enterprising venture, an open race for mares. This was preceded by a show class for those declared to run judged on conformation, breeding and racecourse performance, with prizes of £100, £50 and £25 donated by Land Rover Ltd.

First prize was won by Bunny Terry's Spartan Lace, (also judged the best turned out mare), but although she started favourite in the

race, she was never in the hunt. Scriven, ridden by Willie Bryan, led off the challenges first of Peter and then of Gypsy Heather.

Only four of the 43 entries turned out for the same Tractors Ladies' Open, in which the odds-on Highgate Lady was nearly a fence behind Pacific on the first circuit, but caught him at the last fence to win by six lengths.

Braywood looked all over the winner of the New Forest Open at Larkhill last Saturday, having gone clear of Good and Merry entering the straight with the rest of the field of 17 well behind. However he made a complete hash of the last, enabling Good and Merry to overtake him on the run-in.

Peter Greenall went to Tweseldown to ride Bingleale (which he had sold to Philip Scouller after the end of the season) in the Isle of Wight Open. But Bingleale could do no better than finish third to Rutland Street and Optimism.

Brookside Law and Teresa Webber gained consolation for their narrow defeat at the last meeting here by beating Lucky Rew (Emma Newton) and Keep in the Ladies' Open after Barb's Beau had fallen when dismounting the lead three out.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS: Yarned Hunt: Red Veil, Ranscombe, Western Princess, Johnnie Yellow Jersey, Ladies' Drummer, Open: Old Vicar, Maiden (P), Turnhill, Maiden (P), Princesses Last.

## Dilley is the ideal somatotype on the new Kent road to fitness

## The shape of cricketers to come

If ever there were a competition to find "Mr Cricket", George Poplewell is confident he knows who would win. "He has a highly muscular and athletic frame and is in the same category as Daley Thompson. He's almost the perfect athletic specimen."

In Mr Poplewell's Brave New World of somatotyping, that assessment is encoded as 2-6-2 beside the name of DILLEY, GRAHAM ROY. Every player on the books of the Kent Country Cricket Club has been processed and the scientists are culogising over the shape of the 24-year-old fast bowler Graham Dilley. It is doubtful if any other cricketer in England could match his rating.

George Poplewell is Director of Physical Education at Kent University and he is also coach to the British Weightlifting team. With the help of an orthopaedic consultant and a physiotherapist, he is masterminding a new training technique for cricketers based upon somatotyping.

"It's the science of pairing physical build with temperament," he explained. "We draw up a chart for each player and work out a series of special diets and exercises for their particular body shape. When the players reach their ideal weight it's written into their contracts that they must stick to it."

Old-time cricketers calling at the university gymnasium in Canterbury to watch Kent training would wince. With sweat pouring from the players as they indulge in something called "explosive strength", say thoughts of coming out of retirement would be quickly dispelled.

"I must admit," said Mr Poplewell, "that several distinguished former first-class cricketers have been horrified at what we're doing. But the game has changed and this 'explosive strength' routine is devised specially for the one-day game. It gives the players the ability to drive with their legs, def-

gravity and cover space quickly. They need speed, strength and explosiveness to get their bats in when there's a run-out pending, or to whip out to the boundary to retrieve the ball."

Derek Underwood grimaced and grudgingly nodded in agreement. Now 37 and with nearly 20,000 first-class overs behind him, no doubt a routine called "conserving energy" had crossed his mind.

The players, in the main, have adapted well to this new cricket science. A fitness fanatic, Alan Knott positively enjoys it and most of the younger players seem to relish the training. But the big success has been Dilley. In the past his attitude has been questioned and he has come in for some unwarranted barracking from supporters. Now he is beginning to silence the critics.

## Natural plus

"He has been exemplary," Mr Poplewell said. "He's lost over a stone. He's in great shape and all his rhythm and confidence are oozing back. He's a natural and there's nothing to stop him going right to the top with his positive attitude."

The new Dilley started to emerge in South Africa in the winter. "Fitness is an epidemic out there," he said. "I felt so well I just wanted to run and play sport. I worked hard and felt much better."

He now weighs 15st and, if anything, feels he may even be a little too fit and not quite heavy enough for his 6ft 3½ in frame. As he watched Dilley bowl impressively in the nets, the former Kent and England captain, Colin Cowdrey, sounded a warning note.

"You can overdo it. It's easy to become obsessed with fitness. Fast bowlers like Dilley don't want to scale down too much. There wasn't a lot of science around in my time. Remember Fred Trueman? He was pretty broad in the beam... and he wasn't a bad bowler."

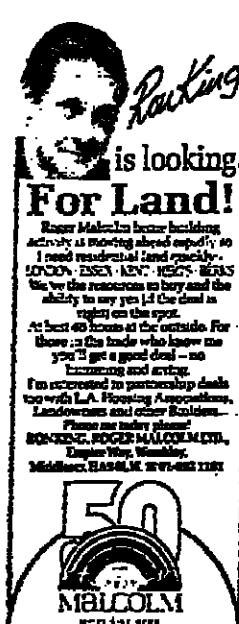


Dilley: a natural alpha?

The slimmer Dilley will also try a new psychological approach to his game. In the past, so many people advised him about his action he became confused. This season he aims to bowl the way he wants. He said: "I'm also going out there to enjoy it... and win something for Kent. If I get my Test place back, then that's fine."

According to Mr Poplewell, that kind of positive thinking all comes from Dilley's new feeling of well-being. He is optimistic that it will spread through the team. "They've already got the skill and knowledge and we hope we've added the extra dimension." And if Kent can recapture some of the glory of the 1970s, when they won 12 trophies, it will not be without a certain irony. Mr Poplewell is a Yorkshireman.

Michael Field



## Commercial property/Baron Phillips

## Record rent set for Cheapside

Terms were finally agreed last week for the letting of Atlas House on Cheapside, ending months of intense market speculation over whether a record rent was being established in this part of the City. Mr Christopher Peacock, of letting agents Jones Lang Wootton, has confirmed that agreement had been reached on the 45,000 sq ft block owned by Jardine Matheson. But he refused to disclose details of the rent, or the name of the tenant.

It is understood that the agreed rent is a shade under £32 a sq ft. Although this is not a record for the City it set new levels for the Cheapside area, which is to the west of the Bank of England and a short distance from the established banking quarter. Mr Peacock said JMW could not reveal the name of the tenant at least until completion, which is expected later this month. Again it is widely believed the tenant is the Japanese industrial and financial conglomerate Mitsubishi which is understood to have been negotiating over the refurbished building for the past six months.

The building, on five upper and two lower ground floors, was acquired by Jardine Matheson almost two years ago from Aquis Securities for around £9.25m. JMW were the agents acting for JM in the purchase. At the time the block, built around the turn of the century, was occupied by Data Stream, but it was bought on the basis that the Hoare Govett subsidiary would vacate Atlas House. Since the financial information service moved out, the building has been undergoing a major facelift which should be completed towards the end of October.

If Mitsubishi is the new tenant then it may relocate staff from other City offices such as London Wall and Lombard Street. The corporation is already established in office space directly across the road from Atlas House in Bow Bell House, Broad Street, EC4.

The letting confirms increasing confidence in the prime City market despite the surfeit of office space on its fringes. Agents believe that at about £32 a sq ft, the rent is good without reflecting an overheating of the prime market. Anything higher, said one agent, would have been "over the top and a little too warm for comfort".



Queensgate Developments has let its 11,200 sq ft office scheme in the centre of Maidenhead, Kidwells Park House, to Northern Telecom. The development, on land formerly owned by the Maidenhead United Reformed Church, has received a commendation from the local Civic Society.

Richard Ellis commented this week that interest in the former Barclays Bank building in Lombard Street is mounting as prospective purchasers compile their offers. It is believed that the successful bid will be announced towards the end of this month. There has also been a little cheer in the City fringe market, as a further 40,000 sq ft of the 500,000 sq ft Cutlers Gardens development, near Liverpool Street Station, came under offer.

MEPC meanwhile confirmed that it has let a further floor to the First National Bank of Chicago in its 200,000 sq ft Long Acre office building, near Covent Garden. The bank, which is moving from the City, will occupy five floors covering about 110,000 sq ft. Mr Chris Benson, MEPC's managing director, said the building is now 90 per cent let.

The extent of troubled Canadian developer Daon Development Corporation's problems are seen from its quarterly figures to the end of January. In those three months Daon reported a net loss of £310,768m (£5,500m) on total revenue of £317,179m, compared with a loss of £575,000 on revenue of £329,368m in the same period last year.

In his report to shareholders Mr Jack Poole, Daon's president, said the three months' results reflected the continued weak real estate markets in every region. "It is unrealistic to suggest any substantial turnaround in financial results is likely to occur until at least the latter half of the year", he said.

As with the corporation's year end results, the quarter's figures are tentative pending completion of a debt restructuring programme with leading lenders.

● Vacant office accommodation in Edinburgh has fallen for the fourth successive quarter, Strutt & Parker reports in its latest survey on the city. Space available for immediate occupancy has fallen to 742,000 sq ft in the first three months of the year, a decrease of 4 per cent.

The agents comment that supply is likely to continue to fall over the short term, but dwindling space is not being reflected in higher rents. Strutt & Parker say that prime central

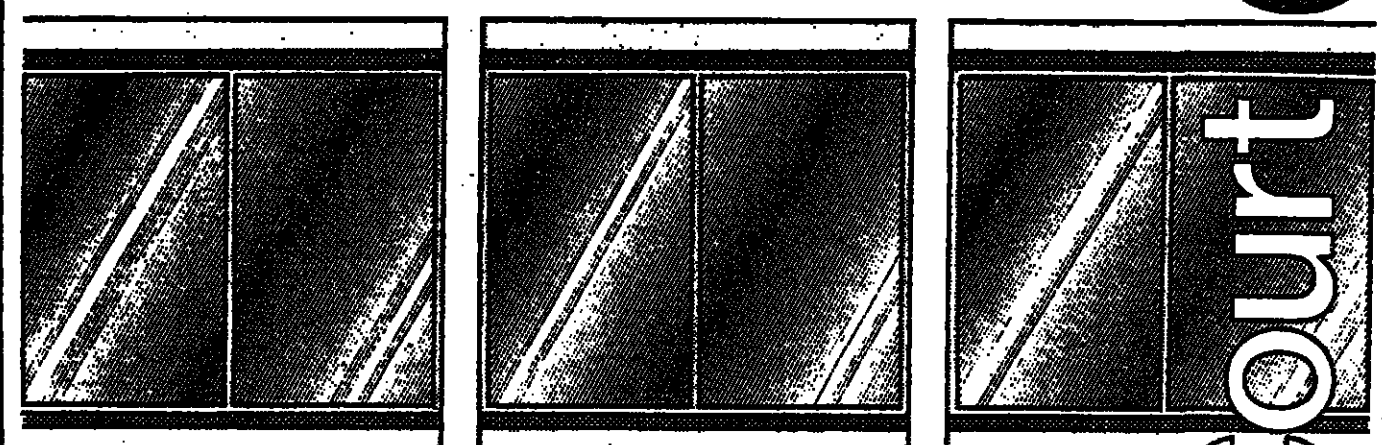
Edinburgh rents are beginning to harden in the £5.25 to £6 a sq ft range. Rents are cheaper in Edinburgh than either Glasgow or Aberdeen, but because of high rates the city is Scotland's most expensive office location.

● Birmingham-based developers and construction group William Sapote & Sons is continuing its policy of offering cut-rate industrial buildings. Rents as low as 49p a sq ft are being offered on restored industrial properties in Houghton Street and Union Street, West Bromwich, through letting agents Chesshire Gibson & Co. The mainly small units are being offered on a sliding scale of rental. Over the first three years of the lease, rents increase from 49p a sq ft to 55p a sq ft. Sapote is heavily undercutting local rents which would normally be almost twice as high.

● Hardanger Properties has spent £780,000 acquiring a freehold shop unit in Wigan and the Old Crown House in Lichfield, Staffs. The two properties are expected to have an investment value of around £1.2m following extensive refurbishment.

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The Secretary is responsible to the full-time Chairman of Council (who is the Accounting Officer) and deputises in his absence. The work of the Council requires close collaboration with the academic community, industry and the Departments of central government. The responsibilities of the Secretary cover the whole range of the Council's activities, and in particular the planning and execution of its policies, liaison with a wide range of research interests at home and abroad, and overall responsibility for the administration of the Council's affairs. The Secretary will need to carry conviction with academic and industrial communities as well as with government and to combine this with general managerial competence of high level. Experience in one or more of these fields and a sound understanding of scientific and technological developments are essential.

Like the other staff of the Council, the Secretary will be appointed on conditions similar to those of the Civil Service. The salary rate is linked to those of the higher grades of the Civil Service and is currently £27,015 per annum. The Secretary is based at the Council's Central Office in Swindon, but must expect to be in London or elsewhere for about two days a week. Some assistance with expenses of house sale/purchase may be available. The appointment will take effect on 1 September 1983, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Anyone interested in being considered for the appointment, or wishing to suggest the names of suitable candidates, is invited to write in confidence to the Chairman of the Council, Professor J F C Kingman FRs, Science and Engineering Research Council, Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon SN2 1ET, by 24 June 1983.

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Requires a competent 'Switched on' Secretary. Located within a 2 minute walk of Vauxhall Station you will be working in brand new premises. Excellent shorthand & organisational ability essential. German an advantage but not essential, likewise with an interest in cars. Salary negotiable but up to £9,000+ other benefits for the correct person. Ring, in first instance Mr P Smith, Company Secretary on 01-582 6000

## SECRETARY/PA

to Chief Executive of Wine Importers and distributors in W1. Typing and shorthand in English and Spanish essential (French useful), knowledge of telex. Applicants should preferably have professional experience. An interest in wine is advantageous. Initial salary around £7,000. Wine allowance, private medical insurance, pension scheme. Applications including CV should be marked confidential and addressed to:

MRS A KNEFECK  
c/o NKR LTD, 33 BRUTON ST, W1

## DIVERSIFIED INTERESTS £7,500 - £8,000

If you are down to the fascinating world of investments but prefer to work in the West End, a small, fast expanding company in St. James's needs another secretary to join them. Their portfolio is varied including theatrical shows, restaurants and high technology and they are looking for someone who is well-organized and presented with good skills (incl. Audio) but above all who has a happy disposition and enthusiasm. A level education. Age 25-35. Please telephone Joanna Ashburn on 01-493 8797

GORDON YATES LTD.,  
35 Old Bond Street, W.1.  
(Recruitment Consultants)

## FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY UP TO £8500

A really superb job exists waiting for this City Market Bank for a secretary/PA with excellent skills (100/50) and who wishes to expand their career. You will be working for a team of experts in financial services. This is a fantastic opportunity for a well-known architect. The PA will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including answering the phone, typing, and dealing with clients.

Senior Secretaries

## EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY

We are an exciting young rapidly expanding Company in Hotel & Architectural Supply. We urgently need a capable person with first class secretarial skills able to delegate & take responsibility meeting clients & organising a busy showroom. Starting salary £7,000 pa with fast promotion for right person.

Tel: 01-499-7364 & speak to Lisa

## PA TO THE CHAIRMAN £8,000

Our client a very successful Advertising Agency, seeks a Senior Secretary to assist the Chairman. He needs a first class PA, a top Secretary and an excellent Administrator. Modern office, profit share and two yearly salary reviews. 100/50 skills needed and previous experience in this field.

Elizabeth Hunt  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
18 Grosvenor Street London W1  
Telephone 01-499 8070

## MAYFAIR

We are a small investment banking firm looking for TWO secretaries. SECRETARIES with excellent shorthand skills and in relation to excellent salaries, smart offices and a good working environment. The also requires an independent experienced RECEPTIONIST / TYPIST capable of projecting the image of the company.

Tel: 01-499 2339 ext. 31

## SECRETARY PA

for MD of small financial consultancy. First class skills, ability to work under pressure and possess part of highly qualified team. Excellent working conditions. Please telephone MARY SIMMONS 499 0355

## c. £7,500 + MORTGAGE, BANKING EC2

This job offers variety, super surroundings and first class benefits. As PA / Sec to a young boss you will cover all aspects of secretarial work including travel arrangements and the like. The ideal candidate will be aged 21-25, be cheerful and hardworking and have SH typing speeds of 100/50. Wang WP experience essential.

Ring 588-3535  
Crone Corkill  
Recruitment Consultants

## PA/CONF. ORG.

International organization seeks P.A. with initiative and organizational ability to organize meetings, must be able to travel, fluent in French and Spanish, possess excellent verbal and communication skills and good typing speeds. Phone Diane (01) 431 1233

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## EXCEPTIONAL SECOND JOBBER £7,500

Lastminute in excellent surroundings when you join this prestigious organization as PA to the President. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the office, including answering the phone, typing, and dealing with clients.

CONTACT ANNE ROBERTS 838 1804  
Rec Cons.

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## General Appointments

The Reference Division is one of the world's great research libraries and maintains an extensive collection of the world's important printed material in all subject fields. It is organised in 4 main Departments and its services include reference, photocopying, catalogue publications and exhibitions.

A new post has been established to control the planning and implementation of the technical processes of preservation, and transfer of material from one medium to another including management of research, training, and scholarly investigation into materials and printing. The Director will be responsible for over 350 staff, and for managing annual expenditure of over £5m.

Candidates will be expected to

have considerable senior managerial experience gained in libraries, the book trade or other institutions with a significant conservation programme. Sympathy with the aims and tasks of the Library is essential together with a broad knowledge of conservation. Experience in commerce or industry would also be relevant.

SALARY: £20490-£22925. Starting salary within the range according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 29 June 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/5999.



## Helping to make practices perfect

Lynda King Taylor examines how solicitors can improve their public image

June 14 and 15 sees two separate conferences, sponsored by the Law Society for solicitors, called 'Developing and Improving your Practice.' This is the first time they have been run in London after a successful series in the regions attracted large numbers of solicitors, who are concerned about the increasing competition from suppliers of legal services who are not solicitors.

According to the Law Society, in a time of inflation and rising overheads solicitors' practices require greater cost effectiveness. Few solicitors, however, have had any management training, and though they may be technically well equipped and full of legal acumen, the actual skills of managing a business and staff relations are alien to many. It was over six years ago that Sir Geoffrey Howe, in a lecture to the Nottingham Law Society, pointed out that in the past the professions were fairly small groups of individuals serving a small clientele. In those circumstances, it was relatively easy to maintain a good communications between members of a profession and their public.

But today the professions no longer serve a privileged minority and, as Sir Geoffrey pointed out, they must meet the needs of, and depend upon, corporations, institutions and the public at large. Their clients are entitled to call upon them to discharge their duties, and these include assuring the client of the widest possible choice of professional advisers and the ways in which their services are rendered. Solicitors' tasks also involve the important obligation to provide a professional service which is efficient, answerable for its activities and with

fees which are closely related to the actual cost of work performed. These services must be offered in a way, and upon a scale that enables them to reach the much larger corporate and individual public which are now likely to need them.

There is failure to do this, as shown by the proliferation of legal services by those who are not solicitors, and by the competition solicitors now face in areas of work which historically have been regarded as their sole preserve. The arrival of the programmed do-it-yourself legal service is another threat to solicitors, and the profession is having to come to terms with a new view of society no longer treats the solicitor with the same unquestioned and unquestioning respect, nor regards him as awe-inspiring and omnipotent.

Aubrey Wilson, the marketing authority and main speaker at the conference, believes that solicitors lack marketing motivation, but far more fundamental "is their deep seated revulsion for the market place".

The practice of marketing need not be loud, aggressive, crass or intrusive. It is a sophisticated art, and discipline. According to Graham Lee, the secretary for professional development at the Law Society and another main speaker, it is not now a question of whether solicitors should adopt marketing concepts to assist them to

survive, and how well they will undertake the tasks involved. There is no body of knowledge, and little in the way of educational for training material to guide solicitors through marketing procedures, and so the Professional & Public relations committee of the Law Society has been running these specialized conferences on practice development.

The Law Society has recently produced a film called *Perishing Solicitors* in an attempt to destroy some of the misperceptions it feels the general public have. But it appreciates that it is solicitors themselves who require training in improving their own image.

Graham Lee believes this means that solicitors "must study the art of marketing, and learning as they will in the course of such study that marketing of their professional services can be undertaken in a way which is perfectly consistent with the rules of professional conduct and the ethics of the profession".

New skills will be needed by solicitors if they are to survive in their competitive marketplace, and retraining is not new to industry, but to the clique of the legal profession it has come as something of a shock. Their monopoly or privileged position no longer exists, and if they are to make their services better than any competitor and market their services in a way that clients know this, then many will have to go back to school to learn the skills of running a business in the very unfair world of the 1980s.

\*Further details from the Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, WC2A 1PL.

## How to block the brain drain

## NEWSROUND

● Unless British companies offer better remuneration packages to their top executives, they can expect to see a continued "brain drain" into self-employment, partnerships and jobs abroad. This fact, recently highlighted by Reward Regional Surveys, was confirmed by Eurosurvey, which has been surveying 3,000 companies in five European countries, including Britain. Peter Bryant, Eurosurvey's managing director in London, said:

"The United Kingdom has potentially the most risk-oriented top management in northern Europe. Seventy-one per cent of British companies in our survey believe that top management should have a stake in the equity of the company, compared with 66 per cent in France, 65 per cent in Belgium and 48 per cent in Holland. The British figure is well worth commenting on, because it shows that we must stop educating our "risk taking" in our development and training programmes. If British companies don't support their more successful and innovative top executives, they will, of course, lose them to a brain drain that includes South Africa, as well as the United States and Europe.

structures, apply textbook solutions to company problems and "arouse more suspicion than respect".

Further details of the UMCB MBA course are available from The Management Centre from Buckingham (UMCB). The qualification, based on the principles of "action learning", differs from conventional MBAs in that the course is built around the specific needs of the organization in which the participant is employed, and that participants are required to give an undertaking that they will continue to keep up to date after graduation. Their progress will be reviewed every five years.

Professor Gordon Wills, UMCB's principal, claims that the new degrees are more career-oriented and are "more likely to have an effect on promotional prospects". But the launch of the new qualification coincides with a survey of 80 of Britain's largest companies by Harbridge house, which claims that recruitment of MBA graduates generally continues to be "astonishingly low". Sixty per cent of the Harbridge sample preferring not to recruit MBAs at all because they demand salaries out of line with company salary

structures, apply textbook solutions to company problems and "arouse more suspicion than respect".

Further details of the UMCB MBA course are available from The Management Centre from Buckingham, Castle Street, Buckingham, Bucks MK18 1BS. A detailed investigation of the effectiveness of MBA degrees on the job market will be published in the *Horizons* column during July.

● People unable to find full-time paid work may be interested in a new journal aimed at all those who are unemployed. The journal, published by the British Unemployment Resource Network (BURN) provides up-to-date information about groups of people out of paid work seeking to meet together, fight against their isolation and find and create work. The magazine is published five times a year, and an annual subscription costs £6 for groups with funding, £3.50 for individuals or groups without funding, and £1.50 for unemployed people. For further details contact Andrew Howell, BURN, c/o Birmingham Settlement, 318 Summer Lane, Birmingham B19 3RL.

## ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

ELECTRONIC OFFICE PRODUCTS  
MAJOR UK SUPPLIER  
c. £16,000 p.a. plus car

A unique and prestigious sales promotion role with a leading supplier of 'IT' products. You will be responsible for the profitable development of business within a small number of institutional purchasing authorities. Ideally the man or woman appointed will be around 35, have a technical degree and excellent presentation skills coupled with confidence and authority. We shall also be looking for a minimum of four years senior negotiating experience with distributors/OEM's or major accounts in this general area. Please send your CV (no application form at this stage) in confidence to Trevor Lee who is advising on this key appointment:



E.P.I. CONSULTANTS  
70 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1PJ

## CJA

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS  
35 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1NH  
Tel: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576  
Telex No. 887374

A key appointment - opportunity to build a corporate finance team from scratch in London - scope exists to become a 'Country Manager' within the short/medium term.



## CORPORATE FINANCE OFFICER

**LONDON £35,000 - £40,000**  
MERCHANDISING BANKING ARM OF A MAJOR INTERNATIONAL BANK  
For this appointment, caused by international growth, we invite applications from corporate finance executives, aged 25-35, who have acquired at least 3 years practical experience in new issues and the Eurobond market in either London and/or New York. Candidates preferably will have a working knowledge of an additional European language, particularly French and/or Spanish or German. Responsibilities will cover advising Government and corporate clients on swaps, swap deals and structuring new packages in the Eurobond market. Initially up to 40% overseas travel will be necessary. The successful candidate will be called upon to build up a really powerful corporate finance team within 6-24 months. Initial salary negotiable, £35,000 - £40,000 + car, pension, subsidised mortgage facility, assistance with removal expenses if necessary. Applications in strict confidence under reference CPO 4175/TT, to the Managing Director:

CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON ASSOCIATES (MANAGEMENT RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS) LIMITED, 35 NEW BROAD STREET, LONDON EC2M 1NH. TELEPHONE: 01-588 3588 or 01-588 3576. TELEX: 887374. FAX: 01-588 3215.  
\* Please only contact us if you are applying for the above position

## Planning Inspectorate

## An important role in decision-making

Planning inspectors weigh evidence, take decisions on planning and enforcement appeals, and undertake a wide variety of other inquiry work under the Town and Country Planning Acts, Housing Acts and other statutes. It is work which offers an attractive combination of interest, challenge and responsibility. It demands total commitment, stamina, self-confidence, high intellectual standards and self-motivation. Inspectors travel extensively throughout England and Wales and must attend the headquarters office in Bristol when required. There are two levels of appointment. For Inspector, it is necessary to have had substantial relevant experience either of the operation of the Planning or Housing Acts or in a senior administrative or managerial post requiring knowledge of judicial or quasi-judicial procedures. For Senior Inspector, direct experience at a responsible level in the preparation and implementation of development plans and of development control is essential.

All candidates must be corporate members of RTP, RBA, ICE, J Mure, or RICS; or be registered architects; or be lawyers called or admitted in England, Scotland or Northern Ireland.

SALARY (under review): Inspector £12695 - £15035; Senior Inspector £14375 - £18900. Starting salary may be above the minimum for the grade. Promotion prospects.

For full details and an application form (to be returned by 27 June 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/392/4.

## Departments of the Environment and Transport

## BRITISH MUSEUM

The Deputy Director of the British Museum has recently retired from the post and the Trustees wish to appoint a successor at the earliest opportunity. The successful candidate will assist the Director in the general management of the Museum, with particular responsibility for budgetary and financial control, staff, and the works and services of the Museum.

Candidates with appropriate academic qualifications, must have substantial administrative and financial experience at a senior level, preferably in a Museum or similar institution.

## DEPUTY DIRECTOR

SALARY: £23075 - £24405. Starting salary according to qualifications and experience. For further details and an application form (to be returned by 29 June 1983) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G/6001/L.

## AIRLINE STAFF REQUIRED

Reservation/Ticketing Agents - Traffic & Cargo Assistants  
Accounts Assistants - Stenographers/Typists  
Telephone Operators - General Clerks/Messengers

## For the first 3 categories:-

Minimum qualifications - 'O' level with 3/4 years travel trade experience or 'A' level with a minimum of 1 year's travel trade experience.

## For the other three categories educational qualifications relaxable.

Applicants must be under 26 years of age - in exceptional cases the age limit may be relaxed to 30 years.

Employment will be initially at the lowest grade with prospects of advancement. Benefits currently include holiday pay, pension scheme, London Weighting Allowance and eligibility for free/concessional air travel. In addition shift allowance will be paid to staff required to work early/late or at weekends. Staff may be required to work overtime due to operational reasons and will be paid at the applicable rate.

Applications to be forwarded with C.V. before 10th June 1983 to the Asst. Administration Manager, Air-India, 17/18, New Bond Street, London W1Y 0BD.

All applications should clearly indicate in top right hand corner only one of the above six posts the application is intended to cover.

## AIR-INDIA

## WHICH CAREER SUITS BEST?

Professional Guidance and Assessment for all ages.  
15-24 yrs: Courses, Careers  
25-34 yrs: Progress, Changes  
35-44 yrs: Review, New Careers  
Full details in free brochure:  
● CAREER ANALYSTS  
● 90 Gloucester Place, W1  
● 01-583 5452 (24 hrs)

## 1066 AND D DAY

Knowledgeable person required between 14th June and 22nd July to lead visits and give a series of talks about the Military History of Normandy, including the D-Day landings. Should be a car driver. Small fee + free holiday or family or friend. Please telephone Heriot Chrysalis on

HERIOT 59034.

JOHN SCHOOL LEAVER with previous air interest in electronics and video required by documentary and medical film/video production company. No actual qualifications but evidence of willingness to work unsocial hours. Attractively low wages but definite possibility of top management career. Box No. 1066 The Times.

THE WHITE HORSE on Parsons Avenue, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB.

## EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

Private international investment company seeks

## EXPERIENCED EXECUTIVE

to join management team, start in 1st half 1983 and work in London. Salary and bonus by agreement. Write to Box 0215H The Times

## CHARTERED SURVEYOR

Worcestershire

Branch Manager for large firm of estate agents to manage successful branch office in pleasant country town. Vacancy arises due to expansion. Residential experience essential, prospects excellent, car provided.

ANDREW GRANT

59/64 FORGATE ST.,

WORCESTER

0905-2447

## Executive Appointments

## WATER COMPANIES' ASSOCIATION DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY

The Association which was established in 1885 to represent the interests of Statutory Water Companies, is seeking a Director and Secretary to succeed the existing holder of this appointment who will retire at the end of the year. The Association will have increasing responsibilities in its co-ordinating role for the Water Companies in the implementation of the Water Act 1983 and the Director and the Secretary will be responsible to the Council of the Association and will, in practice, report to the Chairman.

The person to be appointed should have a knowledge of statutory bodies and Government Departments and be used to working with Committees. Although not essential, it is desirable that the person should be a qualified solicitor. Salary £25,000 p.a. plus pension rights and provision for a car.

Applications should be submitted in writing to: - Director and Secretary, Water Companies' Association, 14 Great College Street, London, SW1P 3RX on or before 24th June, 1983.

University of London

(British Postgraduate Medical Federation)

INSTITUTE OF NEUROLOGY (Queen Square)

Applications are invited for the post of

## SECRETARY OF THE INSTITUTE

Vacant on 30th September 1983. Starting salary £12,620 (under review) plus London Weighting of £1,150.

The Institute is engaged in postgraduate teaching and research, in close association with the National Hospital for Nervous Diseases. The Secretary is the Chair-run-time Administrative Officer. An important aspect of the post is the promotion of an environment in which research staff can give of their best.

Applicants (50 copies) should be sent to the Secretary, Institute of Neurology, The National Hospital, Queen Square, London WC1N 3AR. From whom particulars may be obtained.

Closing date for applications 9 June, 1983.

## General Appointments

DEEPWOOD MINING CO. LTD.  
CHIEF PETROLEUM GEOLOGIST

Deepwood Mining Co Ltd, an independent private company, currently holds an exclusive interest in three Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration Licences and has a policy of vigorous and effective expansion within the industry.

The company seeks the services of a Chief Petroleum Geologist able to provide comprehensive expertise in all aspects of prospect generation, exploration and evaluation underwritten by 6 to 8 years of demonstrably successful involvement together with an awareness of modern techniques.

A highly competitive remuneration package will be offered. Applications in the strictest confidence, together with full CV, should be marked "C.P.G." and addressed to:

## DEEPWOOD

Deepwood Mining Co Ltd,  
Deepwood House, 75 Dale Road,  
Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3LT.

## Estates Governors Alleyn's College of God's Gift at Dulwich.

Appointment of

## Secretary &amp; General Manager.

Chartered Surveyor required to fill the above vacancy. Candidates must be experienced in estate management and legislation affecting it. Ability to deal with staff, lessees and general public at all levels essential. Excellent salary and usual benefits. Apply in writing under confidential cover for application form and job specification to:-

G. V. White, FRICS  
Acting Secretary and General Manager  
Estate Office, The Old College  
Dulwich, SE21 7AE  
Closing date June 24th.

## AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL requires an EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

in the Middle East Research Department at the International Secretariat in London.

The Executive Assistant assists the Researcher and works with Amnesty International's adoption groups and membership, providing information on human rights issues in the Middle East.

Background knowledge of the Middle East (including North Africa), ability to type, good Arabic and English essential; French desirable.

Salary £7834.00 per annum (plus benefits)

For a detailed job specification and application form send a large size to:

The Personnel Department, Amnesty International,  
10 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HF,  
or ring 01-835 7788 ext 289.

Closing date for the return of completed application forms: 27 June 1983.

## FINANCIAL PLANNING ASSISTANT

## C 26,250 PLUS BENEFITS

INTASUN HOLIDAYS LTD - part of a highly successful quoted public group - wish to recruit a young and ambitious graduate to assist in the development of computerised financial models, based at the company's head office in Bromley, Kent. He or she will be:

- ★ Able to demonstrate a sound academic record in mathematics, engineering, computing, all the physical sciences.
- ★ Willing to work hard, develop new skills and take responsibility.
- ★ Comfortable working in an informal but fast-paced and demanding environment.

Applications in writing with full CV to Mrs W. Hammond, Intasun Holidays Ltd, Intasun House, Cromwell Ave, Bromley, Kent.

## Banking &amp; Accountancy Appointments

University of Bradford

ASSISTANT

FINANCE OFFICER

SENIOR

ACCOUNTANCY ASSISTANT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced Accountants for these two posts in the Finance Office of the University. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the Finance Office and will be required to have a number of years of experience of allied work in a public service or other large organisation.

The Senior Accountancy Assistant post is suitable for a younger individual with some experience and initiative. The duties will include accounting, preparation and control of budgets and recharges and other large organisation.

Salary will be at an appropriate point on the scale £10,670 - £23,000 - £16,100 p.a. for the senior post and £11,100 - £13,600 for the second post (both scales under review).

Further particulars may be obtained from the Personnel Secretary, University of Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD7 1DQ, to whom applications, naming three referees, should be sent by 20 June 1983.

## Media Appointments

## NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE

(invites applications for the post of)

## Theatre Director

This important and responsible position requires the candidate to be widely experienced in the profession. A salary in excess of £10,000 is negotiable.

For details of the appointment and further information please write to: The Secretary, Nottingham Theatre Trust Ltd, Hazelmere House, Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham, NG1 5AF.

Closing date for applications: 25 June, 1983.

## International Appointments

## WANTED

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES / ART DIRECTOR FOR SAUDI ARABIA & THE U.S.A.

Middle Eastern Advertising Agency with offices in Jeddah and New York has vacancies for:

(a) One Account Executive with at least 5 years experience in advertising, for Saudi Arabia.

(b) One Art Director with at least 5 years experience for Saudi Arabia.

(c) One Account Executive with 5 years experience for our office in New York, U.S.A.

Knowledge and experience in the Saudi Market will be considered a plus factor. Attractive salaries and benefits offered.

The Agency will be in London around Mid-June for interview of applicants.

Applications will be treated confidentially. Please send your resume to:

MAI ADVERTISING, INC. 545 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10017







## Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

## BBC 1

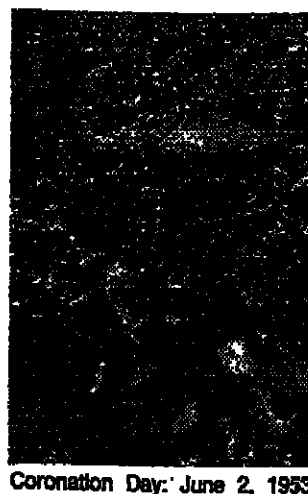
- 00.00 **Celebrity** A service of news, headlines, traffic, sport and weather information that can be received with, or without, a teletext set.
- 30.00 **Breakfast Time** with Nick Ross and Frank Bough. Includes news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30; regional news at 8.45, 9.15, 9.45 and 10.15; sport at 8.45, 9.15, 9.45 and 10.15; and a 10.15-10.30 slot for the morning papers at 7.30 and 8.30; and **Horoscope** (8.30-8.45); **Closedown** at 9.05.
- 1.05 **Election Call** Phone-in to the Ecology Party (Tel. 01 580 4411).
- 30.00 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Sarah Marshall. 1.02 Financial Report. And sub-titled news.
- 05.00 **Our Undersea World: The Scallops Alternative** How these delicious shellfish are raised in protected coves on the seabed. 1.45 hr. BBC1, 2.00 Yvonne and Me.
- 1.15 **Film: Some People** (1982). Pleasantly optimistic drama with the late Kenneth More being helped to three rock entertainers who have struck a success. With Ray Brooks, David Andrews and David Hemmings. Director: Clive Donner. 3.45 Tom and Jerry cartoon.
- 3.55 **Play School** Michael Sullivan's story 'Today' (also on BBC2 at 10.30am). 4.20 **The Drak Park cartoon**. 4.40 **Held** Episode 9 of this 26-part serial based on the children's classic (P).
- 5.05 **John Craven's Newsround**. 5.10 **Blue Peter**: Today's edition includes an obituary of J. L. Sullivan's seven-year-old sister spotted by a cat. This replaces the scheduled item on the true Robinson Crusoe.
- 5.40 **News** with Jan Leeming. 6.00 South East at Six. 6.25 **Northside**, including a phone-in to David Steel, the Liberal leader.
- 7.00 **Tomorrow's World**: Science and technology magazine.
- 7.25 **The Pope** Jimmy Savile and the **Beatles** introduce this live edition.
- 8.00 **Fame**: Doris is having weight problems in this latest instalment of the drama series about the New York High School for Performing Arts. Meanwhile, the slender Coco is seeing what she can do about landing a role in a movie. Erics Gimpel plays Coco and Valeri Landsburg is Doris.
- 8.50 **Points of View**: Jimmy Savile's letters are given the Barry Took treatment.
- 9.00 **Party Election Broadcast** by the Labour Party.
- 9.10 **News** with Michael Buerk. Plus **Fred Emery** with a Campaign Report, spotlighting the main political happenings of the day.
- 9.50 **Jury**: The drama series about the lives of individual members of a jury hearing a rape case continues with the story of the builder's labourer (Richard Piper) who is totally aware that his wife (Stacey Tendler) is lonely and unhappy and tired of having to carry the burden of looking after three demanding children. The jury also hears the progress of the trial set him thinking along new lines. This programme carries **Celebrity** titles for the hard of hearing (on Page 170).
- 10.40 **Question Time**: Another lively session of questions and answers with Sir Robin Day in the chair and Denis Healey, Cader Parkinson and William Rodgers making up the team. From Birmingham.
- 11.45 **News headlines**. And weather prospects for Friday.

## TV-am

- 6.25 **Good Morning Britain**: Includes flashbacks to the Coronation Day, 1953, and clips from the new Star Wars movie. News at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.45; **Cartoon** at 6.55; Morning papers with David Rappaport at 7.05; **Competition** at 7.25 and 8.25; **Electoral special** at 7.30; TV spot at 8.35; **Style** by Judy Corbett (Loren) at 8.57; **Closedown** at 9.25.

## ITV/LONDON

- 9.30 **Sesame Street** with The Muppet. 10.30 **Film: King Arthur** was a Gentleman (1942) Modesty-made British comedy, with Arthur Askey as the soldier who learns too heavily on what he believes is a holiday.
- 12.00 **Gammon and Spinach** with Valerie Pitts. 12.10 **Get up and go** with Beryl Reid; 12.30 **The Sullivan**: serial about an Australian family.
- 1.00 **News**: 1.20 **Thames area** news; 1.30 **Crown Court**: We learn the verdict in the case of an alleged assault on a department store Father Christmas (P).
- 2.00 **A Place**: Studio guest is Antonia Fraser. And viewers look back on Coronation Day - June 2, 1953.
- 2.30 **Racing from Epsom**: We see the 2.35, and 3.10 (The Coronation Cup) and the 3.40.
- 4.00 **Children's ITV**: **Gammon and Spinach** (P); 4.15 **Double or Nothing** cartoon; 4.20 **First Post**: Young viewers' letters are replied to by Sue Robbie; 4.30 **Rowan's Report**: Yvonne Carter, the long-distance swimmer, aged 15, is interviewed by Nick Towns; 4.45 **News**: Drama series set in an Australian community welfare home.
- 5.15 **Emmerdale Farm**: The Yorkshire countryside serial.
- 5.45 **News** from ITN. 6.00 **Thames area news**; 6.25 **Help** Community edition.
- 6.35 **Thames Sports**: local, national and international sports coverage.
- 7.00 **Knight Rider**: A terrorist gang kidnap Bonnie and make her re-programme KITT to rob and to kill. One of the car's targets is none other than Michael Knight himself (David Hasselhoff).
- 8.00 **Minder**: Arthur (George Cole), briefly looked up in a police cell, finds himself at the centre of an Anglo-German police investigation into drugs smuggling. Tary (Dennis Waterman) has a novel way to effect Arthur's release. With Frederick Jaeger (P).
- 9.00 **Party Election Broadcast** by the Labour Party.
- 9.10 **Michael Barrymore**: the final programme in this series featuring the new comedian, who learns why he is called the 'punchline' and why he is called 'Liar'.
- 9.40 **TV Eye**: Alistair Burnet, in the latest of his pre-election interviews, goes right to the top. He talks to Sir Thatcher. News from ITN. And **Thames news headlines**.
- 10.45 **No Excuses**: Episode four of this drama series about a rock star (Charlotte Cross) who tonight there are some human explosions at the bonfire party.
- 11.45 **The New Avengers**: Soviet agent Perov (Peter Jeffrey) pretends to commit suicide and return home to face the music after a botched operation. But, despite his cremation, he is still around (P).
- 12.40 **Close**: Sir Phillips reads from John Galt's *Annals of the Parish*.



Coronation Day: June 2, 1953 BBC 2, 9.35pm.

● **LIVING APART TOGETHER** (Channel 4, 9.40pm), written and directed by Charles Gormley, is about a present-day Glasgow rendered almost anonymous by the fact that its characters are denizens of the pop music world, and we all know how well they manage to knock down regional barriers through the monotonous exercise of their universal rhythm and language. It can't easily be a real-life pop singer and composer, B.A. Robertson, as its hero, a pop singer and composer whose wife packs her bags and walks out on him because she has had enough. Pausing long enough only to pop into bed with another woman, he sets out in search of her. It is a story, played for comedy, and Mr Gormley has written some good lines (when we manage to hear them, that is, over the prevailing din). I like his wry attitude

towards the instant stardom that is a feature of the pop scene. "He's really famous," says one awestruck fan of his pop idol. "No," retorts his bar companion, "it's like weeks and weeks before he's really famous." There are many other such shafts. Mr Robertson, does not strike me as having any special qualities as singer or tunesmith, but he writes strong lyrics. If he ever decided to quit the pop music world, he would have little difficulty finding employment as an actor, or a playwright. The wife is played, somewhat vaguely by Barbara Kellerman.

● **Radio highlights**: Ted Hughes has adapted Seneca's play *OEDIPUS* (Radio 3, 8.00pm) in a

version that gives Martin Jarvis the meaty role and Stephen Phillips the part of Jocasta. John Rowe plays Creon. The music is by Ilona Sekacz. This is the first part of a Seneca double. His *THYESTES* (starring Denis Quilley) can be heard on Radio 3 next Sunday, in Jane Elder's translation.

● **DEGREES OF HUMOUR** (Radio 4, 12.27), the first of four features marking the centenary of the Cambridge University Footlights Dramatic Club, has got this air two days after the club's 100th celebration (Saturday night, 9.55).

Today, we hear extracts from Footlights and May Week revues introduced by Griff Rhys Jones. Famous voices include those of Clive James, David Frost, Graham Chapman and Bob Buckman.

## Radio 3

- 6.05 **Weather**.
- 7.05 **Morning Concert**: Pedro de Arana, Haydn (Quartet in E flat, Op 35 No 2), Bach, Couperin (P).
- 8.00 **News**.
- 8.05 **Morning Concert** (continued): Fux, Antonio Vivaldi, Tallis, Vaughan Williams (Fantasia in a Treble by Thomas Tallis).
- 9.00 **News**.
- 9.05 **The Week's Composer**: Handel (includes *Chandos Anthem*: As parts the heart).
- 10.00 **Leslie Howard** conducted. *Madama Butterfly*: 78 rpm recording.
- 11.00 **Schumann**, Brahms, Grieg, Alexander Scriabin (piano) and Kathryn Surrock (piano).
- 11.50 **Stravinsky and Shostakovich**: The Philharmonic Orchestra. The *Symphony No 2* (P).
- 1.00 **News**.
- 1.05 **Manchester Summer Recital** (new series), recital by David Wilde of piano pieces by Brahms, Schumann, Chopin, Liszt, Debussy, Op 78, No 2 (P).
- 2.00 **The Creation** Haydn's oratorio sung in a new English translation by Nicholas Temperley with Judith Nelson, Nigel Rogers and David Thomas as (P).
- 3.55 **Schubert**: Chamber music: Octet (P, 0.50) (P).
- 4.55 **News**.
- 5.00 **Mainly for Pleasure**: Includes John Rutter's *Concerto for Cello and Piano* (P, 0.10) (P).
- 6.30 **Bandstand**: Portsmouth Citadel Band; Eric Leighton, Wilfred Hamilton, Brian Bowers, Eric Bell (P).
- 7.00 **Northern Sinfonia** of England: *Concerto for Cello* in C minor, Op 6, No 3, Michael (P).
- 8.00 **Oedipus** by Seneca. The version by John Rutter, with Judith Nelson, Nigel Rogers and David Thomas as (P).
- 9.25 **The Blue Bird** by Mary Jarry (P, 0.10) (P).
- 10.15 **Musical**: In Our Time, Edward Cowie, Colin Matthews. Includes first broadcast performance of Matthews' *New Music* (P).
- 11.00 **ONLY - Open University**: 11.20pm.

## Radio 2

- 5.00 **Kan Bruce**: 7.30 **Terry Wogan** including 9.30 **Benison** and **Hedges** Semi-Final Draw: 10.00 **Jimmy**

## Radio 1

- Young, 12.00 **Music While You Work**: 12.30 **John Peel** including 2.02 **Beat**, 2.30 **Party** (P). Broadcast by the Labour Party. 2.35 **Stewart** including 3.02 **Sports Desk**. 3.10 **Racing from Epsom** including 3.40 **Best Hamilton** including 4.00 **Sports Desk**. 4.30 **John Peel** including 4.50 **Sports Desk**. 5.00 **John Peel** including 5.30 **Sports Desk**. 5.40 **John Peel** including 6.10 **Sports Desk**. 6.20 **John Peel** including 6.50 **Sports Desk**. 7.00 **John Peel** including 7.30 **Sports Desk**. 7.40 **John Peel** including 8.10 **Sports Desk**. 8.20 **John Peel** including 8.50 **Sports Desk**. 9.00 **John Peel** including 9.30 **Sports Desk**. 9.40 **John Peel** including 10.10 **Sports Desk**. 10.20 **John Peel** including 10.50 **Sports Desk**. 11.00 **John Peel** including 11.30 **Sports Desk**. 11.40 **John Peel** including 12.10 **Sports Desk**. 12.20 **John Peel** including 12.50 **Sports Desk**. 1.00 **John Peel** including 1.30 **Sports Desk**. 1.40 **John Peel** including 2.10 **Sports Desk**. 2.20 **John Peel** including 2.50 **Sports Desk**. 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## Continued from page 1

Earlier, at a morning press conference in Cardiff, Mr Steel was questioned about the possibility of the Alliance obtaining more votes but fewer seats than the Labour Party. On such an event, he said, would make the case for proportional representation impossible to



here was this little girl against the world.

"But she was always a tough one to beat. If she was the last to go in a competition you could never relax."

He remembers, as the day



**By Rupert Morris**

The Suffolk Show was one of her favourites, Mr John Harveys, the show secretary, said yesterday: "It is a great tragedy. Caroline will be missed by us all. She was a very popular figure over the many years she has been associated with the Suffolk Show."

Yet in the same paragraph, Mr St John Stevas was in some editions quoted as referring to "Mr Mole". This should, of course, have read "Mr Hole."

[illegible]